JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.

VOL. LXV. No. 3,351.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1885.

PRICE 6D. BY POST 6½D.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

Established in 1836, and registered in 1880 under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1879.

Capital £8,000,000, in 100,000 shares of £80 each.

REPORT adopted at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, the 5th February, 1885.

WILLIAM HENRY STONE, Esq., in the chair.

The directors, in submitting to the proprietors the balance-sheet for the half-year ending 31st December last, have to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £45,844 17s. 0d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £185,026 2s. 7d. This sum, added to £33,192 18s. 3d., the balance brought forward from last account, produces a total of £218,219 0s. 10d.

The directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, which will absorb £200,000. This will leave a balance of £18,219 0s. 10d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account. The present dividend, added to that paid to 30th June, makes 21 per cent. for the year 1884.

The directors retiring by rotation are John James Cater, Esq., Edward Harbord Lushington, Esq., and William Henry Stone, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The dividend, £2 per share, free of income tax, will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, 16th February.

BALANCE SHEET of the LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY (Limited), 31st December, 1884:—

Dr.		£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed, £8,000,000. Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve fund		1,000,000 0 0
Due by the bank on current accounts, on deposit accounts, with interest accrued, circular notes, &c.		26,976,359 19 0
Liabilities on acceptances, covered by cash or securities or bankers' guarantees		3,503,277 14 1
Rebate on bills not due, carried to next account		45,844 17 0
Profit and loss balance brought from last account	£33,192 18 3	
Net profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	185,026 2 7	
		218,219 0 10
		£33,743,701 10 11

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By cash at the head office and branches, and with Bank of England	3,710,807 13 3	
Loans at call and at notice, covered by securities	3,086,977 4 3	
		6,797,784 17 6
Investments, viz.:—		
Consols, registered and in Certificates, New Three per Cents, Reduced Three per Cents., and New Two-and-a-Half per Cents., £3,582,091 7s. 11d., Canada Four per Cent Bonds and Turkish Four per Cent. Bonds, guaranteed by the British Government	3,980,680 18 3	
India Government Guaranteed Railway Debentures and Shares, and India Government Debentures	409,078 13 1	
English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	226,900 0 0	
Other securities	47,348 12 8	
		4,674,108 4 0
Discounted bills current	10,507,091 17 6	
Advances to customers at the head office and branches	7,817,343 3 4	
		18,324,435 0 10
Liabilities of customers for drafts accepted by the Bank (as per contra)		3,503,277 14 1
Freehold Premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, Freehold and Leasehold Property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings		445,095 14 6
		£33,743,701 10 11

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£ s. d.
To interest paid to customers	85,637 12 1
Salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income tax on profits and salaries	176,927 5 4
Rebate on bills not due, carried to new account	45,844 17 0
Dividend 10 per cent. for the half-year £200,000 0 0	
Balance carried forward 18,219 0 10	
	218,219 0 10
	£526,628 15 3

Cr.	£ s. d.
By balance brought forward from last account	33,192 18 3
Gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and including rebate, £25,655 4s. 10d., brought from 30th June last	493,435 17 5
	£526,628 15 3

Examined and audited by us,
(Signed) WM. A. JONES, ED. H. LUSHINGTON, A. H. PHILLPOTTS } Audit Committee of Directors.
W. McKEWAN, General Manager.
JAS. GREY CHIEF Accountant.
London and County Banking Company (Limited),
17th January, 1885.

We have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and profit and loss account, have verified the cash balance at the Bank of England, the stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several books and vouchers showing the cash balances, bills and other amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and we are of opinion this balance-sheet and profit and loss account are full and fair, properly drawn up, and exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs, as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) FINLAY KNIGHT, WILLIAM NORMAN, RICHARD H. SWAINE, } Auditors,
London and County Banking Company (Limited).
22nd January, 1885.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

Notice is Hereby Given, that a DIVIDEND on the capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the half-year ending 31st December, 1884, will be PAYABLE to the proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's branches, on or after Monday, the 16th instant.

By order of the Board.
W. M'KEWAN, General Manager.
21, Lombard-street, 6th February, 1885.

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ACTUARY—STEWART HELDER, Esq. PHYSICIAN—Dr. STONE.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION, 1st JUNE, 1884:—

Total Funds	£3,143,166
Total Annual Income	£343,271
Total Amount of Claims upon Death	£2,373,688
Amount of Profits divided at the last Quinquennial Bonus	£437,347

NO AGENTS EMPLOYED AND NO COMMISSION PAID.

BONUS—£437,347 was distributed amongst 7,882 Policies at the Tenth Quinquennial Division of Profits. Of these, 1,070 were then, by means of Bonus, not only altogether freed from the payment of Annual Premiums, but had, in almost every case, additions made to the sums originally assured.

PREMIUMS.—Assurances may be effected to the extent of £7,500 at very moderate Rates of Premium, one-fifth of which may remain a charge upon the Policy, to be repaid wholly or in part at each Quinquennial Division of Profits.

MANAGEMENT.—The total expenses on all accounts were, in the past financial year, £1 5s. 9d. per cent. of the total income.

QUALIFICATION.—The Clergy and such of the Laity as are connected with them by kindred or marriage.

MATTHEW HODGSON, Secretary.

Copies of the 55th Annual Report and revised Prospectus, Forms of Proposals, &c., may be had on application to the Office, 1 & 2, THE SANCTUARY, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Authorised Capital, £3,000,000. Subscribed Capital, £2,000,000, Paid-up Capital, £625,000.

RESOURCES OF THE COMPANY as at 31st December, 1883.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums received during the year 1883, after deducting re-insurances, amounted to £1,107,745 9s. 9d.

The Net Losses by Fire during the year were, after deducting re-insurances, £672,825 13s. 10d.

This embraces not merely all losses actually ascertained and paid, but a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December.

The Fire Funds, after payment of the Dividend and Bonus aftermentioned, and irrespective of the Paid-up Capital, are as follow:—

Reserve	£1,170,000 0 0
Premium Reserve	369,248 9 11
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	52,986 15 3
	£1,592,235 5 2

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

894 new Policies were issued during the year, assuring	£814,819 0 0
The new Premiums on which amount to the sum of	29,572 1 5
The claims sustained during the year, including 16 endowments, were 296 in number, arising under 297 policies, and the sums payable, after deducting re-assurances, amounted, with bonus additions, to	346,122 4 4
The income for the year of the Life Branch from premiums and interest amounted to	471,407 15 7
In the Annuity Branch 83 bonds were granted, securing annuities to the amount of £5,390 12s. 7d. yearly, for which was received by single payment the sum of	59,520 11 6
The Life Fund, now amounts to	3,340,913 11 2
The Annuity Fund now amounts to	500,275 17 11

LIFE DEPARTMENT.—The PRINCIPLES on which this Company was founded, and on which it continues to act, combine the system of Mutual Assurance with the safety of a large Protecting Capital and Accumulated Funds. NINETY PER CENT. of the WHOLE PROFITS is divided among the Assurers on the Participating Scale. The PROFITS are divided every Five Years. POLICIES are INDISPUTABLE after Five Years.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The Chamber has discussed and agreed to the Public Works Budget. A resolution in favour of the sale of the State railways was rejected, the Minister pointing out that though many of them were not remunerative at present they would improve. On Monday M. Paul Bert proposed to settle the financial difficulty by the sale of Episcopal palaces, seminaries, &c. He stated that there were 200 of these buildings, which the Concordat did not assign to the Church, and which would realise £4,000,000. M. Martin Feuillée, for the Government, replied that some country houses of Bishops had already been reclaimed by the State; but Bishops were entitled by law, though not by the Concordat itself, to residences. M. Goblet urged that, until disestablishment was effected, it was unfair to deprive the Church of the material advantages which were a set-off for want of liberty of action. The motion was ultimately rejected by 274 votes to 180.

On the motion of M. Ballue, the standing order which requires divisions to be taken by secret ballot at the request of any fifty deputies was repealed by 418 votes to 13. The secret ballot not only prevented it being known how a deputy had voted on the question where it was applied, but excluded the votes of absentees. As it had been expected that the opponents of *scrutin de liste* would demand its application when the Bill introducing that system is brought forward, the passing of that measure is considered the more likely.

A Bill was presented to the French Chamber on Thursday to open a credit of £1,000,000 sterling to relieve unemployed workpeople, and a motion was made calling on the Government at once to commence the public works for which credits have been voted. The Chamber refused urgency for the Bill, and referred it to a committee; but adopted, without a division, the resolution to hurry on the public works.

The French Minister of War has received a despatch from General Brière de l'Isle, announcing the occupation by the French of the Deouvau Pass after a slight engagement on the night of the 2nd inst. The Chinese troops appeared to be concentrated about an hour's march from the French position.

The treaty recently concluded between France and Burmah, and signed by the Burmese Ambassador, at present in Paris, is a treaty of commerce, and provides for the settlement of French subjects in Burmah. It will be consequently submitted to Parliament for approval.

A treaty between France and the International African Association for the delimitation of their respective territories on the Congo was signed on Thursday in Paris by M. Jules Ferry and M. Pirmez, representing the King of the Belgians.

A correspondent writes from Biarritz:—"Here, as at all other places in the South of France, the inhabitants are complaining of the scarcity of visitors, and Biarritz is particularly unfortunate in this respect, for owing to the severity of the quarantine regulations in the summer at the Franco-Spanish frontier, the Spaniards, who are the mainstay of the place in the summer months, were unable to come. Then, again, the dread of cholera kept away the English and Russians later in the autumn, and now, though there is no more danger of cholera at Biarritz than at Bournemouth or Torquay, the place is half empty because the migration to the South has not taken place upon anything like the usual scale this winter. On and after Saturday, the 14th, a four-horse coach will run between Biarritz and Pau, horsed by two American gentlemen who are at present running it between Pau and Lourdes, and some entertainments, including a fancy fair, masked ball, and theatricals, are to take place this week for the benefit of the sufferers by the earthquakes in Spain. It is very appropriate that Biarritz should come to the relief of a country to which she owes so much of her prosperity, and the Comte Duchâtel, formerly French Ambassador at Vienna, and his wife, who have a beautiful villa here, have remained on purpose to promote this charitable work."

The latest report of the Bureau de Bienfaisance shows a perceptible, though not very large, diminution of people seeking relief as compared with the numbers of 1880. At that time Paris contained a population of 1,988,606, among whom were 123,735 indigents, or 6·22 per cent. of the total. At the present time the population has increased to 2,269,000, and the proportion of indigents is only 5·43 per cent. This diminution is not equally spread over all quarters of the capital, for in the 13th arrondissement it has risen to 12·37 per cent., and in the 20th to 12·24 per cent., while in the eighth and ninth it has decreased to as low as 1·65. In all the arrondissements the proportion of women seeking relief is considerably greater than of men, there being 41 of the former to 24 of the latter—not a matter for much wonder considering how wretchedly Parisian workwomen are paid for their labour. It is somewhat singular that Paris and the Department of the Seine should furnish so comparatively few paupers, the proportion out of every 1,000 being only 227, while the provinces furnish 706 and foreigners 67. Of every 1,000 foreigners on the relief book Germans figure for 407, Belgians for 356, Dutch for 72, Italians for 51, and English for 20. Over a fourth of the indigent population either find gratuitous lodgings or occupy rooms at less than 100f. per annum rent; about one-half live at a higher rental, varying from 100f. to 200f.; 61 per cent. of the lodgings are tenanted by one bed, and the remainder by two, four, or even five. Every profession, every trade is represented, literature and the fine arts included.

CHINA.—A telegram despatched from Kelung by Admiral Courbet states that a column of 1,500 men, with four guns, carried on January 25 several of the works threatening the French positions on the south-east. The French troops, however, stopped to rest at a distance of half a league from their position and 660 metres from a strongly fortified plateau. The enemy offered a vigorous resistance, and their musketry fire was effective. The French lost nine killed, including two officers, and fifty wounded.

GERMANY.—The *Standard* has reason to believe that a new secret expedition is about to start from Berlin for St. Lucia Bay. It will consist of four men, an engineer, a merchant, a mineralogist, and a scientific chemist. The object of the expedition is, if possible, to acquire, in the name of Herr Lüderitz, all the country lying between Angra Pequeña and Walfisch Bay on the West Coast, and St. Lucia Bay on the East Coast, so that an unbroken belt of territory from East to West may be in German hands. Herr Einwald, who is also about to proceed to St. Lucia Bay for the purpose of purchasing land, does not go in the interests of Herr Lüderitz, but on behalf of the Berlin Discount Society.

RUSSIA.—The Russian *Novoe Vremya* reviews the year of 1884 in a series of articles, in which the affairs of the empire as a whole are described as being considerably better than they have been for some years past. The maintenance of order, the establishment of better control over the administration and the regained dignity of the organs of Government have been specially marked in the past year. The commission for the reform of local administration has counted among its members not only those who advocate the centralisation of power, but the delegates of the self-governing party have been invited to all the deliberations. One of the great reforms marking 1884 is that of the Russian Universities, although it will be a long time before the benefits are fully appreciated. New statutes for ecclesiastical seminaries and academies have been made, and attempts have been made to increase the influence of the clergy in secular schools. A special commission has been preparing a scheme for the establishment of a system of technical schools such as are common in Sweden. Measures regulating the employment of children in factories have also been legalised. Among administrative reforms, the establishment of the government in the Amur district and the incorporation of Poland in the empire in matters concerning the organisation of the affairs of the peasants are the most important. Curiously enough, the financial position has considerably improved in spite of the continued commercial and industrial depression. The experiment of building State railways having proved too expensive, the construction of the line Novorossisk, Rostoff-Vladikavkas will be conceded to a private company. Recent legal actions against banks have shown that the legislation concerning them is in need of a radical reform. The St. Petersburg maritime canal has been completed, the port of Batoum is now in the course of development, and the canals between the basins of the Obi and the Jenissey are progressing.

Particulars from St. Petersburg regarding the recent burning of the Greek Orthodox Church, at Jacobstadt (Courlnad), state that the edifice was blown up by dynamite. A strict inquiry has been instituted by the authorities, but has, up to the present, not led to the arrest of the guilty parties.

AUSTRIA.—At Pesth, on Sunday, took place the funeral of the so-called gipsy king, Paul Racz, the famous violinist. Racz twice visited London, where he gave concerts, accompanied by his Hungarian band, and received from the Prince of Wales a diamond ring, which he held in special honour, and which he bequeathed, together with his favourite violin, to his eldest son, who succeeds him as conductor of the band. Racz, who was seventy-two years old, was married four times, and leaves thirty-four children living. His funeral, which was one of the most imposing seen for years in Pesth, was attended by tens of thousands of persons, artists, actors, and musicians, as well as many members of the aristocracy, including ladies. A military band preceded the procession, in which were borne the numerous medals, orders, and other distinctions received by Racz, and all his violins draped in black. Following the hearse were about a dozen Hungarian gipsy bands with draped instruments.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says that he is in a position to state that news of a very grave and startling character may shortly be expected from Central Asia:—

"According to the last news from the Afghan frontier the English Commissioners were, up to a fortnight ago, still awaiting the arrival of the Russian delegates. From what I hear to-day, they are likely to be kept waiting some considerable time yet. Meanwhile, they must have experienced no little surprise on finding the Russians established at Dedekhatoun, that all-important strategic point commanding the north of Afghanistan. Thanks to an indiscretion that escaped the pen of the Russian General Sobelieff, the ex-Bulgarian Minister of War, in a recent publication, we know that the Russians are within a shorter distance of Herat than that which separates St. Petersburg from Narva—about 100 kilometres. It has been understood for some time past that events of first-class importance were drawing nigh in Central Asia. The despatch of a German mission to Teheran was significant enough, and three weeks ago an Austrian officer, Captain Fux, of the Dragoons, suddenly started for the same destination. He received a consular appointment; but there is good reason to believe that he has gone to watch events in that part of the East, not in the special interest of the consular service. He is a skilled Orientalist, has been to Syria and Bagdad, and (if I mistake not) was also for a short time in Persia some years ago. These and other circumstances tend to the conclusion that the events about to take place in Central Asia are the outcome of an understanding between the three Imperial Powers, no doubt finally sanctioned at Skiernevice. I was credibly informed, shortly after the meeting of the three Emperors, that Russia had received *carte blanche* in Central Asia, and would turn it to account before England should withdraw from Egypt. No attempt has been made to deny the report that large bodies of Persian troops are on the move, and the Russian official press will not easily convince people that it is merely in order to protect the Persian frontier from the incursions of the Turkomans. But be that as it may, there are other ominous circumstances enough in the neighbourhood of the Afghan frontier to give the information briefly imparted to me on unimpeachable authority the utmost weight."

AMERICA.—President Arthur, in a message sent to Congress, suggests that the Arctic exploring vessel *Alert*, presented by the British Government to the United States, shall now be returned with suitable acknowledgments. The President further recommends that he be authorised to return the vessel.

On Monday afternoon, at about a quarter past five, while O'Donovan Rossa was walking down Chambers-street, he was approached by a handsome young woman, quietly dressed, and wearing spectacles, who presented the appearance of an intellectual school teacher. On nearing him she drew from the pocket of her dress a five-chambered revolver of small calibre, and presenting it, fired one shot at him. Rossa threw up his hands, and exclaiming, "I'm shot," fell heavily on the pavement. The woman then fired the remaining four chambers at the prostrate man, and proceeded to walk calmly and unconcernedly away with the revolver in her hand. A large crowd assembled round the spot where Rossa lay, and several people followed the woman and arrested her. The man who actually apprehended her said that he found her in the street brandishing a weapon. She was conducted to the police-station, and behaved with remarkable coolness. A man who entered the station with her informed the police that she had just shot a man. The sergeant asked her, "Do you know the man?" and she replied with a slight English accent, "Yes, I shot O'Donovan Rossa." She looked demure, and as she stood at the bar betrayed no excitement. She gave her name as Yseult Dudley, and said she was a native of England, and a hospital nurse by occupation. She described herself as a widow of 24, but did not appear more than 18. Subsequently she was locked up, and not allowed to be interviewed by any representative of the press. The prisoner is not thought to be insane, as she answered all the questions put to her deliberately and with some degree of caution. She declined to give her reasons for shooting Rossa. As soon as the woman ceased firing Rossa rose, and with assistance walked to his office, and thence to the hospital, a distance of nearly a quarter of a mile. Only one bullet pierced his body, and that entered his back directly below the left shoulder blade.

Rossa is reported to be progressing rapidly towards complete recovery. He has dictated a long manifesto, in which he declares that England has inaugurated the work of individual assassination; that emissaries of England are now engaged in assassinating American citizens. The British Minister at New York, he says, is in the conspiracy, and as a conspirator should be arrested by the American authorities. Rossa then goes on to state that it had hitherto been the rule of the dynamite brotherhood not to touch or molest in any way Englishmen in America. Now England has transplanted her assassins to America. Rossa waits to see whether the people of America who have howled over cases such as the explosions at the Houses of Parliament and the Tower will be equal to the present emergency when England by means of her assassins has declared war against American citizens. Rossa's supporters are said to be assuming a threatening attitude. While Mrs. Dudley was being conducted to the Tombs Police-court a crowd of rowdies, in which Rossa's immediate following were conspicuous, howled at the prisoner and threatened her, shouting at the same time "English spy!" The police drew their clubs and revolvers, and ordered the mob to keep back. The crowd quailed before the pistols and quickly calmed down. The dynamiters have held another meeting, and are making great capital out of the political aspect of the affair. Dudley's act is attributed by them to the direct inspiration of the British Government. The attack on Rossa is described as another instance of English persecution; and Rossa himself is leaving no stone unturned to pose as a martyr to the cause, and it is not at all unlikely that an increase of subscriptions may reward him for his involuntary sufferings.

Reports are published of various interviews with Mrs. Dudley. To the *Standard* correspondent she expressed regret that she had not killed Rossa. It appears that she is identical with Lucilla Dudley, who in 1883 made two attempts on her own life in railway carriages in England. After the last she was confined six months in Hayward's Heath Asylum. The physicians there considered that her mania was congenital, and was likely at any time to assume a suicidal or homicidal form. She was discharged, her friends promising to take care of her, and went to New York, where she had good employment as a nurse, for which she had been trained. She was well educated, and spoke French fluently. Both in the asylum and at New York she expressed an aversion to the Irish, which she showed in particular to an Irish physician at Hayward's Heath.

MOROCCO.—According to the latest reports from Tangiers, the European friends of the Jews in Morocco are still demanding that there shall be a public inquiry into the conduct of the Governor of Damnat, who is alleged to have subjected the Hebrews of that city to the most cruel oppression. The *Times of Morocco*, in its issue of January 26th, states that when the Sultan lately sent an agent to Damnat to inquire into the charges made against the Governor, the latter presented the investigating official with a sum of 4,000 dollars, and each of his attendants with 200 dollars, the amount of the bribes being raised by means of a forced levy upon the Jews themselves. The narratives of several of the sufferers contain details of the most painful description. At one place the Jews were mercilessly attacked by a party of ruffians in ambush, and although they defended themselves as best they could, several of their number were so brutally treated that they subsequently died. This act of self-defence has been made the foundation of a charge against the Jews of having committed an outrage on the Moors, and in consequence the Grand Vizier, in a recent letter to the American Consul-General, threatens them with chastisement at the hands of the Moorish Government itself. Some united action on the part of the representatives of foreign Powers at Tangiers seems to be called for in the interests of humanity.

TURKEY.—The *Times* has received the following telegram from its correspondent at Constantinople:—

"The rumours current in London respecting an intended despatch of Turkish troops to the Red Sea are not confirmed by any appearance of preparation here. There would be no difficulty in sending the force required for a Soudan expedition from Syria, as the garrisons of Damascus, Beyrout, and Jerusalem could furnish 6,000 men, and, by drawing upon the reserves to replace the men in active service, 20,000 could be available within a couple of months. But in such a case preparations would be seen here in the collection of transports, and I have ascertained that no such preparations have so far been contemplated. Under the existing contract the Austrian Lloyd's Company places at the disposal of the Turkish authorities one large steamer monthly, but the despatch of 6,000 men would require at least five or six vessels of this class, even were the men as closely packed as Turkish troops generally are.

It is announced from Cairo that the Italians have forcibly occupied Beilul, notwithstanding the protest of the Governor. The Egyptian garrison, consisting of forty soldiers, was compelled to withdraw, and the Egyptian Government has notified the fact to the Porte.

EGYPT.—The Alexandria correspondent of the *Times*, believing that we are approaching another compromise on the Egyptian question, urges that no guarantee for non-interference on the part of the Powers can have any practical value so long as they join in the guarantee of the loan. It will be possible for them, he says, at any moment to urge that our administration is destroying their security. Seeing that the Powers are willing to consent to a policy of non-interference, it is surely advisable to relieve them from the responsibility which they are generously willing to accept. He adds:—

"It is, moreover, dangerous to pledge ourselves to responsibility for the administration unless it be clearly understood that we shall be allowed a free hand to govern. This is impossible so long as the Capitulations exist; and unless we have insisted on their abolition, or at least suspension during the period of trial, we are simply inviting failure. In existing circumstances the Government is unable to enforce the simplest police regulations. It is hardly conceivable, but it is a fact, that a European coachman may defy the traffic regulations, a European tradesman may obstruct the thoroughfares, and European burglars may conduct their operations with perfect impunity. Let three persons of different nationalities be engaged in a street brawl—the native may be imprisoned for years, the Englishman for a week; but the Greek will get off scot free. That such things are possible under an Egyptian Administration while English troops occupy the country is bad enough; but our unpopularity will increase greatly if we become the open administrators of an unjust system.

"Again, the ridiculous and extravagant machinery of the Mixed Tribunals was only endurable as a substitute for the previous Consular Court system, and enormous powers were given to the Mixed Courts in order to control the arbitrary government of Ismail. It is impossible for us to administer the country so long as these Courts hold their present position, rendering them virtually the supreme legislators of the country. It is absurd to burden our administration with a system at the same time cumbrous, expensive, and inefficient.

"The Dual Control of every Administration must also disappear, unless we desire failure. The best Government could do nothing if (as is probable), with or without instructions, the French officials should adopt a steadily obstructive policy. It is already rumoured that the railway administration is to be abolished, a native director being substituted. Any move is in the right direction which abolishes the present administration; and if a native administrator be necessary in order to be rid of the present board, his appointment must be accepted with resignation as a temporary measure; but eventually, under an exclusively English management, we could double the efficiency and halve the cost of the management."

These reforms the correspondent considers not only absolutely essential, but unless they be insisted upon "we are openly facing another certain failure, and every such failure renders our eventual success more difficult and its attainment more dangerous."

AUSTRALIA.—The annual session of the Diocesan Synod of Tasmania began on the 18th November with a celebration of Holy Communion in the Cathedral, Hobart. The Synod afterwards met for business, the Bishop (Dr. Sandford) presiding. Archdeacon Hales gave notice of a motion that the Synod was of opinion that the General Synod of Australia and Tasmania would be justified in taking order for the arrangement or compilation of services suitable to the requirements of the Church, and requested the Bishop, should he see fit, to confer with the Primate on the subject, and the Rev. C. Vaughan to request the Bishop to issue a special form of service for the burial of the dead, in accordance with the recommendation of the Convocation of Canterbury. The Hon. A. Dobson was appointed Church Advocate, in the room of Mr. R. P. Adams, appointed Chancellor, and Canon Bailey a member of the Council of Advice, in the room of Dean Bromby. The President then addressed the Synod. After speaking of the duties and advantages of Synods (as we learn from the *Hobart Mercury*) he continued:—

"There is one other feature in the constitution and laws enacted for us by Parliament to which I must refer. Comparing our position with that of the Church in other colonies, we have cause, I think, for much thankfulness and encouragement. It is impossible to challenge our *locus standi* and our rights as heirs and representatives of the branch of the Church of England originally founded in this colony. Our *status*, our property, our jurisdiction over our own officers and members, 'so far as concerns their respective positions, rights, duties, and liabilities, in regard to their office, ministry, membership, or communion in the Church,' are acknowledged and secured. We have been authorised and enabled to establish a tribunal for the trial of offences against the laws ecclesiastical, as well as those involving breaches of discipline as questions of doctrine and ritual, to which the clergy and officers of the Church are made amendable; and 'witnesses appearing before the said tribunal may be examined on oath by any judge so commissioned thereof.' Happily, although the Court is always duly constituted by each new Synod, it has never been called upon to sit. Further, the representation of our parishoners in Synod and the distribution of seats, although originally prescribed and adjusted, have been left to be dealt with by the Synod according to its wisdom and pleasure. Further, the Synod is empowered to divide the diocese into separate cures, congregations, or parishes, to determine the modes of patronage and make rules as to the management of property, and generally to regulate the affairs of the Church as it may deem expedient. My visitation of the diocese has convinced me that the interests of the Church and of the souls committed to its charge demand nothing more imperatively than the consideration whether these powers ought not to be exercised in regard to the

incidence and effect of what is called 'the amalgamation of cures' scheme.

"I doubt whether in any other colony similar vantage-ground and privileges have been granted, or the Church of England been equally favoured on the withdrawal of 'State aid.' And, when there are added to this the grants of property in churches, parsonages, and glebes without consideration or payment, and the endowment of nearly £60,000, made over to our governing body, and left at its free and unrestricted disposal under the State Aid Commutation Act, I have enumerated a catalogue of advantages we enjoy in this diocese which may well make my Episcopal brethren and their clergy and people elsewhere wish that they lived under the rule of the Tasmanian Government and Legislature. What would the Church in Canada have given for such terms on the withdrawal of the 'clergy reserves?' How would the path of the Primate and Church of South Africa be cleared of difficulties (in which I am sure they have our sympathy and prayers) if they had obtained such Church Constitution Acts from the Legislature of the Cape Colony?"

The Bishop then dwelt on the importance of the subject of division and boundaries of parishes, and the apportionment of funds among them, and spoke of his desire that the Cathedral and its Chapter should be so organised as to be useful to the whole diocese. With regard to the supply of clergy, the Bishop observed that there were sixty-four licensed or formally permitted to officiate in the diocese; but some of these were not engaged in parochial work. This number was insufficient; but to keep it up and enlarge it with safety, sufficiency of stipend and the maintenance of the standard of education and fitness were necessary. The Bishop's permission must always be asked and obtained for the employment of migratory clergy. Christ's College was still an object of anxiety, and there were difficulties in the acceptance of the estate left by the late Mr. Toosey in aid of Christ's College, unless an enabling Act could be passed. The Bishop also spoke of the usefulness of lay-readers in country parishes.

Reviewing his Episcopal work, the Bishop stated that he had during the year ordained two deacons and three priests. He had consecrated four churches (one rebuilt), licensed two others for Divine service, and laid the foundation-stone of a new church at St. George's Bay. He had preached in every parish and confirmed 700 candidates at thirty-five confirmations. He had also licensed six lay-readers. He had received the formal resignation by Dean Bromby of St. David's parish and the Deanery of Hobart.

A memorandum to the Governor of Victoria from Mr. James Service, the Premier of that colony, in reference to German annexation in the Pacific, has just been made public. In this Mr. Service mentions the assurances on which he submits "that Australian colonists were entitled to rest in perfect confidence that their interest in New Guinea was secured by Her Majesty's Imperial Government, and it must be supposed that the reported action of a foreign Power, if it be a fact, is without the knowledge or consent of Her Majesty's Government. Yet the reports are so detailed and circumstantial, and, further, so entirely in accord with the published utterances of the German Chancellor, that it seems vain to doubt them." Mr. Service adds:—"The present position of matters is this—that Australia is not allowed to act for herself, neither will the Imperial Government act for her, and, meanwhile, she has to stand by and see territories, the possession of which she regards as essential to her safety and wellbeing, pass to another Power. As one who strongly cherishes the connection of the colonies with the empire, Mr. Service cannot adequately express the feeling of disappointment which he entertains at the want of response by Her Majesty's Government to the aspirations of the colonies. Whether this report should prove to be true, or whether exaggerated, in either case it illustrates the extreme unwisdom of slighting the perpetual and strong representations which have unceasingly been addressed to the Imperial Government on this subject for the last eighteen months." Mr. Service submits certain reports, and requests the Governor to telegraph the intelligence to the Secretary of State, with a request that steps may be at once authorised by telegraph to save to Australasia such of the neighbouring islands as are yet available. Mr. Service further asks the Governor to convey his strong protest, on behalf of the colony of Victoria, against the inaction which gives an open invitation to foreign Powers to come and take possession of lands in which no Power can be so much interested as the neighbouring and important communities of Australasia.

It is announced that in virtue of the treaties concluded in May, 1884, with Mankoroane, chief of the Batlapins, and Montsioa, chief of the Barolongs, by which Her Majesty obtained "jurisdiction over white men and black men" within their respective territories, the High Commissioner in South Africa is empowered to establish Courts, and appoint and remove judges, magistrates, and other officers, and make regulations therefor. This jurisdiction will apply to all persons within the limits mentioned, "whether natives of Africa or not, and whether subjects of any African or non-African Powers or not," and crimes committed since the making of the treaties will be punishable under the order. The limits of the order are thus defined:—"The parts of South Africa situate west of the boundary of the South African Republic as defined by the convention made at London on February 27th, 1884, between Her Majesty and the said Republic; north of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope; east of the 20th meridian of east longtitude; and south of the 22nd parallel of south latitude; and not within the jurisdiction of any civilised Power."

The following particulars of the fighting at the Cameroons is given in a Reuter's telegram dated Dec. 22:—

"The two German men-of-war arrived at the mouth of the river on the morning of the 11th inst., and on the 20th a number of boats and launches, containing about 300 men, were towed up the river by the steamers *Fau* and *Dualla*, belonging to two German firms. The men in the launches were fully armed, and went immediately to the town of Hickory. Everybody at the time was engaged in trade, and without any warning the Germans opened fire on the place. The natives soon collected, and armed with rifles they returned the fire on the German launches. A number of the men then landed, and set fire to the houses in the town. Hickory is a good distance down the river. Foss Town is situated almost at the mouth of the Cameroons, on the opposite or Bell Town side of the river, which the Germans formally annexed a short time ago. The Foss Town chiefs, when they saw what was taking place on the opposite side of the river, went to the German factory of Messrs. Woermann and Co., about half a mile distant from their own town, and on the beach, and their seized the sub-agent, Mr. Pontanies. They threatened that if any of the Foss Town people were killed they would immediately retaliate by taking the life of Pontanies. The other German agents evidently had word of the intended bombardment of the place, as they had left Cameroons a few days before the war-vessels had arrived, and, indeed, met the war-vessels afterwards at the mouth of the river, and were in the boats which made the attack on Hickory Town. News of the seizing of Mr. Pontanies was conveyed to the war-vessels, and the boats left Hickory Town and made an attack on Foss Town, but immediately they came within a short distance from that place the Foss Town people opened fire upon them and kept it up until the German seamen had landed. A number of the German seamen were killed at this place. The seamen then charged up Bell-hill and succeeded in driving the natives from the place. In the encounter one of the Foss Town chiefs, named Calabar Joss, was killed, and immediately on his death the natives brought out Woermann's sub-agent and at once carried out their threat, cutting off his head, putting it on a pole, and carrying it through the town. They then made for the bush, and the Germans, after setting fire to the town, retired for the day. A shell which was thrown into the town alighted on the factory of Messrs. Hamilton and Co. and wounded their agent, Mr. Holder, besides destroying the place. Another English factory, belonging to Mr. Harris, had fifteen bullets shot into it. The agent was engaged in trading on the beach at the time, and succeeded in getting on the hulk in the river, having a very narrow escape for his life. In the evening the German authorities searched all the shipping in the river, ostensibly for the purpose of capturing the two chiefs, Lock Preese and Green Joss, but these chiefs were not to be found and up to the 25th of December they had not been captured. They had, no doubt, gone into the bush, which is so dense that it would be a matter of almost impossibility for the troops to follow them. On the 21st one German vessel, the *Adler*, was brought into the river and completed the destruction of Hickory Town. In searching the hulks of the English merchants the German officers were accompanied by the clerks and agents of the German trading firms established in the Cameroons. The Baptist missionary station, erected on an elevated position, at much cost, was completely destroyed by the fire. The missionaries complain bitterly that no warning was given of the attack, and that consequently many innocent women and children lost their lives. It is impossible to tell the number of the natives killed or wounded, as they were carried into the bush by their comrades. Much surprise was manifested that the English factories suffered so much, as they were not in any way in the line of fire. The *Benguela*, owing to the unsettled state of the river, did not proceed up, but anchored at the mouth. The trade that is being carried on is being done entirely with the English houses, as the action of the German authorities has caused the natives to sever their friendly dealings with the German traders. It is reported that on this account the German authorities have accused the English of using undue influence with the natives, and it is feared that this may be made a pretext for driving the English traders out of the river. In the attack on Foss Town, the German troops were compelled to retreat and obtain reinforcements before they carried the place. No declaration of war against the Cameroon natives was issued before the bombardment, and the searching of British ships in what is really neutral territory (as only one side of the river has been annexed by Germany) is looked upon as a flagrant violation of international law."

IRELAND.

A meeting of the Meath Diocesan Synod of the Disestablished Church of Ireland, convened by order of his Grace the Primate, was held on Wednesday in the Synod-hall attached to Christ's Church Cathedral, for the election of a Bishop as successor to Lord Plunkett, who has been recently elevated to the Archbishopric of Dublin. The Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore presided. After the appointment of scrutineers, the assessor, the Right Hon. J. T. Ball, explained the method of election. The election was then proceeded with, and, after the first voting, the second voting resulted as follows:—The Rev. J. S. Bell, 49 clerical, 58 lay; the Very Rev. C. P. Reichel, 21 clerical and 58 lay; the Very Rev. Canon Wynne, five clerical and 16 lay. The assessor stated that the requirements of the statute had not been fulfilled, as neither candidate had obtained a majority of each order, and a third voting was accordingly proceeded with. The result of the third voting, which was announced shortly before 5 o'clock, was:—The Rev. J. S. Bell, 57 clerical votes, 56 lay; the Very Rev. C. P. Reichel, 16 clerical, 53 lay; the Very Rev. Canon Wynne, one clerical and two lay votes. The total number voting was 74 clerical and 117 lay members. The assessor said that Dr. Bell had now obtained a majority of each order, but he had not received the support of two-thirds of each, which was the qualification necessary for election. Dr. Bell's name would now be put separately to the Synod, that it might be ascertained whether he had the requisite two-thirds majority of those present. After several polls, as it was found that Dr. Bell had not obtained the requisite two-thirds majority of each order, his name and that of the Very Rev. Dean Reichel were referred, in accordance with the requirements of the Church Statutes, to the Bench of Bishops for final selection.

A meeting of the National League was held in Dublin on Wednesday at the central offices in Sackville-street. Mr. T. O'Connor, M.P., presided, and addressed the meeting at great length on the land and national questions, but made no reference to the Rossa incident or the recent dynamite outrages. He said the league was willing to accept union and compromise on any national basis, but they were not willing to accept anything from any section in Ireland which was purchased by the sacrifice of a single right or a single penny of the people. He advised the Irish Nationalist journalists to pay particular attention to the utterances of the English leaders on the land question, and he would suggest that Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Chamberlain should be made honorary members of the league, but that they were a little too extreme for the league. He had observed in the orations of Mr. Chamberlain a certain tendency to coquet with the nationalisation of the land, to his mind one of the most absurd and pernicious crazes of the day. He had not opposed him in Parliament because, as an Irish Nationalist, he was quite willing to make use of him or any English statesman in furtherance of the objects of the league. After the next general election they would have eighty or ninety Parnellite members, and he trusted that the next party would not only be National but democratic. Referring to the subject of the payment of the National members, Mr. O'Connor said up to the present the Parliamentary representatives had made no appeal to the people, but when the time came for Mr. Parnell to make the appeal the result would astonish the world. At the close of Mr. O'Connor's speech, Mr. Harrington, M.P., proposed two new members for election, and Mr. O'Connor then declared the proceedings ended.

Lord O'Hagan, who had been for some days lying in a hopeless state, died on Sunday at Hereford House, Park-street. Lord O'Hagan was in his 73rd year, was the only son of the late Mr. Edward O'Hagan, of Belfast, was born in Ireland in 1812, and was called to the Irish bar in 1836. At first he combined the work of a reporter with his professional duties, and he soon gained so high a position at the bar that in 1849 he was nominated a Queen's counsel. For many years he acted as assistant barrister of the county of Longford, and was made Queen's Serjeant and a Bencher of the King's Inn in 1859. He was Solicitor-General for Ireland from 1860 to 1861, when he was promoted to the Attorney-Generalship, and was sworn a Privy Councillor. Four years later he was promoted to the Irish Bench as a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and in 1868 was placed on the Irish woolsack as Lord Chancellor, being the first Roman Catholic who ever sat in that distinguished post. He held the Great Seal of Ireland down to 1874, when he retired with his party; but was reappointed on Mr. Gladstone's return to office in 1880. In the November of the following year he resigned the chancellorship, but he continued, as a member of the House of Peers, to render active and constant service, especially on Irish questions. He was one of the most popular men both in society and in his profession, and at his house in Rutland-square politicians of all creeds, opinions, and parties were glad to meet. When he was raised to the peerage he was congratulated on all sides as being not only the first Roman Catholic Chancellor, but the first Irish Chancellor who had been raised to the peerage as such since the Union—for Lord Clare was already a Peer before that measure became law, and Lord Plunket got his peerage before he sat on the woolsack. "Throughout his political and professional career," wrote the *Weekly Register*, "Lord O'Hagan has maintained a character of the purest integrity. Faithful to his own principles, he has always respected the feelings of those opposed to him. A sincere Catholic, not in name only, but in practice, he has always had the largest toleration for those of other creeds." It is not too much to say that as a Commissioner of National Education in Ireland, and as a Commissioner of Charitable Donations and Bequests, Lord O'Hagan commanded the respect of all parties—a privilege not often granted to public men in Ireland. As to Tullahogue, county Tyrone, from which he took his title, it is one of the places in which the old Irish kings were crowned, and the O'Hagans were once a powerful sept or clan in those parts. Lord O'Hagan was twice married—firstly, in 1836, to Mary, daughter of Mr. Charles Hamilton Teeling, of Belfast, and secondly, in 1871, to Alice Mary, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Towneley, of Towneley Hall, Lancashire. He is succeeded in his peerage by his eldest son by his second marriage, the Hon. Thomas Towneley O'Hagan, who was born in 1878, and is, therefore, only in his seventh year.

The *Freeman's Journal*, in its London letter, says that under the influence of panic English employers of labour are playing into the hands of the dynamiters. In various parts of England loss of work has been brought on unoffending Irishmen by the explosions. On Saturday one of the largest publishing firms in London dismissed every Irishman in its employment.

The persons on whom devolved the duty of burying the body of Archibold, the farmer who committed suicide after murdering his servant girl, carried out the interment late at night on Thursday week on the seashore, between Balbriggan and Gormanstown. The feeling against allowing the body to be buried in the district ran so high that it was feared that the people would endeavour to burn the house where it was lying.

The Probate Division was occupied last week with a case which has attracted a good deal of attention from the fact that a large amount of property was involved in it, that Cardinal M'Cabe was one of the witnesses, and that the wife of the Lord Mayor of Dublin was one of the defendants. It arose out of the opposition offered by the next-of-kin to the proof of a will by which a retired publican left the greater part of his fortune, amounting to £120,000, to various charitable institutions in Dublin. After hearing only part of the evidence, the jury asked that the case might be stopped, and returned a verdict establishing the will.

The trial of John Lee for the murder of Miss Keyse at Babbicombe, on November 15, was concluded at Exeter on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Manisty, who, in summing up, said the theory of the defence was that someone else did the deed, but the essence of the prosecution was that the prisoner alone could have done it. The blows were struck and the throat cut in the hall a few feet from the prisoner's room. Could this have been done, and the house set on fire, and the prisoner have known nothing of it? After a short deliberation, the jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to death.

Chappuis' Daylight Reflectors for Counting-houses.—69, Fleet-street.

THE NILE EXPEDITION.

The following extract from the last letter sent from Korti by the late special correspondent of the *Standard*, Mr. Cameron, will be read with interest:—

"In the afternoon the entire column assembled in the desert just outside Korti. In front, a dreary, waterless waste; behind, the friendly streak of green that marked the course of the Nile, never before during our long journey from Cairo forsaken for longer than one day's march, but now to be abandoned for a lengthened period. At the head of the column was Major Kitchener with his guides, a half-dozen Bedouins belonging to the nearest village, and under the leadership of the son of the old King of Ambukol, dispossessed when the Turks first occupied the country. This party was surrounded by an escort of Mounted Infantry, with their rifles unslung ready for instant use—silently but grimly hinting that any attempt to abandon the column in the desert or to play false would meet with immediate retribution. First the thirty troopers of the 19th Hussars told off to act as scouts cantered on and extended themselves on the horizon. Following them went Major Kitchener's party, the guides in the centre of the group, gesticulating and chattering excitedly. From the frequency with which the word '*moyah*,' the Arabic for water, was used, it was evident what formed the subject of their otherwise unintelligible conversation. But extending their hands in a north-easterly direction they repeated over and over again '*moyah ketier*,' so that we guessed they were telling us that in that direction only would good water be found. To the kneeling column the word 'Mount' was then given—a signal, too, for every camel on the ground to begin that roar of never-failing protest which these melancholic animals always enter against being turned by man into beasts of burden. But as soon as they are up and on their way, striding across the desert, silence again supervenes, the complete absence of all sound as rank after rank passes by seeming more impressive even than the din that prevailed a moment before. And so the long procession moved on in the direction of the setting sun, reminding us of the Exodus from Egypt, as they plunged into what up to the present is more or less of a *terra incognita*. True, we have the careful reports of English engineers who surveyed the proposed line of railway that was to have followed this route to guide us; but whether the different wells will be found tenanted by an enemy or not we have so far no certain means of knowing. Soon after starting Sir Herbert Stewart found the column too long, and too unwieldy. Imposing as it looked, Lord Airlie, his Brigade Major, was constrained to remark, as he cantered past the point where I had taken my stand, 'Well, if we should happen to be attacked, we shall have trouble, I am sure, with this baggage train.' So a broader front was taken—more than one hundred yards—the depth accordingly being lessened to half a mile. . . . Before this letter can have reached England, whether we are to have opposition or no opposition will have been decided; but it may be of interest to know how we on the spot look upon the venture. No one denies the risk we must incur, a risk which I have referred to on more than one occasion by letter and by telegram as a risk which would not have been necessary had the preparations for the expedition been begun a month sooner. If the Camel Corps alone was from the first deemed sufficient for the relief of Khartoum, then why, at enormous expense and tremendous exertion, have five thousand infantry been brought up the Nile? And if they are by themselves not sufficient, there must be danger in exposing them unsupported for an indefinite period to the contingency of attack by the Madhi's united strength. The Camel Corps in its present form was an afterthought, carried into execution when it was discovered that the boats might not reach Khartoum in time to save the garrison and its heroic commander. That is how we feel here on the subject, and, consequently, it speaks strongly for the good spirit of the troops that all—officers and men—are keen to share in the risk. It is possible, and some think probable, that we may reach Metammeh and establish ourselves on the Nile again—perhaps even make our way up to Khartoum itself—almost without firing a shot. But it is also possible, and also not improbable, that we may find waiting for us a horde of fanatical enemies rendered confident by a long series of successes, who may either attack our long and unwieldy column with that headlong, reckless fury that has always characterised their assaults, or who may elect instead to hem us in and cut off our supplies of food, as they have hemmed in Khartoum. Either of these are contingencies serious enough, but which, although fully realised, are not dwelt upon long by our people, who like Englishmen, always feel confident that once they have Gordon's enemies in sight, no matter how numerous they may be, the question of his relief and safety will be promptly settled. . . . . I have been present more than once during recent years when reverses have overtaken British troops in the field, and on each occasion the cause was the same—foolish over-confidence in our own and under-estimation of the enemy's fighting capacities. For some time during the present campaign, if one might judge by the style of conversation current, a similar spirit prevailed; but recently officers and men appear more thoroughly to grasp the nature of the task we have in hand. The advent among us of some who had the experience of the Souakim fighting to guide them has had an unmistakeably good effect. In the meantime, while their comrades of the Guards and Mounted Infantry are traversing and retraversing the desert between here and Gakdul, the cavalry sections of the Camel Corps are busy learning infantry drill, and are not showing altogether great proficiency in the work. There is a trace of the ridiculous in the efforts, protracted for half an hour sometimes at a stretch, of a body of oldish, well set-up, and evidently well-disciplined troops to learn so simple military manœuvres as 'fours deep, 'fours right,' and 'fours about.' Consequently a good deal of chaff is exchanged between themselves and their brethren of the Line. The latter have even suggested that a new drill-book might be brought out for the use of cavalry, to be entitled *Markers Out; or, The Duffers Bewildered*. However, it has been characteristic of this campaign that our troops should find themselves in novel situations. The Linesmen have had to become boatmen and the Life Guardsmen camel drivers, while the drafts from the cavalry

are learning drill which, a few days after, they may have to execute in the face of an enemy."

The *Standard's* correspondent at Korti has obtained some additional particulars of the battle of Abu Klea from some of those who took part in it, and who have arrived at Korti. His informants agree in stating that the first rush of the enemy was something really terrific :—

"The tremendous musketry fire which swept their masses did not seem to check their advance in the slightest, and they literally flung themselves upon the square, and bore back the Heavy Cavalrymen by sheer weight. The face of the square, though driven in, could not be said to have been absolutely broken, for the men and officers still faced the Arabs, although so pressed that their line formed an irregular semi-circle, extending as far into the square as the kneeling camels. Beyond these the Arabs could not force back the troops. The camels formed a sort of breast-work, and over them the fight raged, both parties fighting hand to hand, bayonet against spear. The issue could not be said to have been for a moment in doubt, for the cavalrymen were at once supported by parties from the other sides of the square. These were in readiness to oppose any further advance had the line given way, but were obliged to withhold their fire so long as the two parties were mingled in the strife. A few of the enemy crawled in between the camels, but were instantly cut down. The enemy's loss would have been heavier even than it was had the square opened fire upon them as they first approached; but this they were unable to do, as we had skirmishers out when the Arabs burst suddenly from the hollow which had hidden them from sight, and the troops had to reserve their fire until the skirmishers had run in. Had it been otherwise, the enemy, in spite of their magnificent bravery, would not have been able to come to close quarters. The officers are said to have fought desperately when the men were pressed back by the rush of the Arabs, and Colonel Burnaby killed several of the enemy before he received the fatal spear-thrust. The spears and rifles of the Arabs left on the field were collected and burned."

An officer who was engaged in the fight gives the following account of the critical moment of the conflict :—

"When the enemy first sprang to their feet they were some eight hundred yards away; they made a hoarse shouting as they ran, which sounded like the roar of a heavy sea on the beach. Borne along with them were at least a hundred large parti-coloured banners. As soon as the skirmishers had run in, a terrific fire was opened from the left face of the square by the Mounted Infantry and Heavy Cavalry; but although losing terribly, the enemy came on without a check. When they neared the square they suddenly swept round the left flank and fell upon the Heavy Cavalry in the rear. They were armed with guns, swords, and spears, but carried no shields. The sudden rush bore back the Heavy Cavalry men, and a fierce hand-to-hand fight took place; but the Arabs could not penetrate far, being checked by the rows of kneeling camels, with guns, ammunition, and water-skins. While a desperate struggle was going on between the head of the Arab column and the Heavies, a tremendous fire was kept up into their main body from the front and left flank of the square, until at last the Arabs swerved, broke, and retired sullenly. The square at once ceased firing and re-formed, the Gardner gun alone playing upon the retiring enemy. Had the square deployed at once and opened fire they would have inflicted an enormous loss upon the Arabs."

When the steamers from Khartoum arrived opposite the point at which the British force had taken up their position after the battle of Gubat, the *Daily Telegraph* correspondent went on board :—

"Our Egyptian friends appeared overjoyed to see us. We learned that all was safe at Khartoum six days ago, and that the Mahdi had sent 2,000 men on the 17th inst. to reinforce Metammeh, within which were 1,000 riflemen and 10,000 spearmen. Olivier Pain, the French renegade, we were informed, was in command there. The Mahdi himself was said to be at Omdurman with 12,000 troops. The steamers had not been in Khartoum for one month, but had been waiting us at an island above Metammeh. The vessels, or three of them, at any rate, are rather larger than Greenwich steamers. They are covered with heavy boards of hard wood, and, inside, with thin iron plates. The hulls are of iron, and the general appearance of the craft is very battered, resembling nothing so much as an old hoarding in a shabby London street. Bullet-marks have pitted them from the funnel-top to the water-line, just as a virulent attack of small-pox disfigures a man's face. On board there are several hundreds of plucky blacks, led by a few Turks. As usual, they have their wives and families with them. The vessels are more like floating houses than war-ships. On the evening of the 22nd the steamers threw fifty shells into Shendy, and have promised to return again unless the people submit. This they do not seem inclined to do. We have been improving our defences, as we learn that an Arab force from Berber is on the way to attack us. We have plenty of forage, and have an island on our front to which all could retire. The total loss in the recent fighting is 104 killed, 201 wounded, and several missing."

The *Standard* on the same day received the following telegrams (dated Friday), from its special correspondent with General Earle's column :—

"The South Staffordshire Regiment were occupied the whole of yesterday in getting their boats up the Bahak Cataract. The work is extremely hard, and the numerous rapids and the number of rocks below the surface render great care necessary, and prevent anything like rapid progress. The Black Watch are now nearly all through. The troops camp at night in zarebas, along the line of river occupied by the boats. Every care is taken against a night attack, and heliograph, or rather selenegraph, signals are kept up by moonlight along the line.

"Yesterday Colonel Butler reconnoitred the country close to up Birti, and gained important information as to the enemy, who are reported to be strong and to intend fighting. The Mudir's Soudanese troops, under Colonel Colville, on the right bank of the river, have now advanced to a point nearly opposite Birti.

"At daybreak this morning a deserter from Birti rode in here on horseback. He stated that the enemy had intended to attack us as we made our way up the Bahak Cataract, but that we advanced sooner than they expected. Their plan was to remain at a distance until the boats were all struggling in the rapids, and then to come down and open fire from the bank. They are much mortified at the opportunity having been missed. However, they would in no case have succeeded, as the Black Watch held the bank while the South Staffordshire Regiment were going up in their boats. The deserter says that the news of Stewart's two victories had reached the tribesmen at Birti, and had caused great surprise and disappointment, as the English column was regarded as doomed. The natives are, he says, armed with Remington rifles and spears. They have also a cannon which fell into their hands when they took Colonel Stewart's steamer. It was, however, spiked by the crew, and is still unserviceable. The deserter states that he believes that some of the Greeks who accompanied Colonel Stewart were not slain in the massacre, but that they are still alive at Berber."

"MASHAMI CATARACT (*vid* Merawee), Saturday.—The head of the Nile column under General Earle has reached this point, and the boats are moving forward steadily. A squadron of the 19th Hussars and the Egyptian Camel Corps are covering the advance on the left bank of the river under Colonel Butler; and 300 of the Mudir of Dongola's troops are advancing on the right bank under Colonel Colville. Yesterday our scouts came upon the enemy's scouts about eight miles from here, and, after exchanging shots with them, retired. Wad Gama is reported to be in command of the Mahdi's men at Birti, about ten miles from Mashami Cataract. A deserter who was with the enemy's scouts yesterday came in here this morning on Wad Gama's horse. He reports that the number of rebels at Birti is 14,000, but this estimate is believed to be exaggerated. It is considered that the number may possibly not exceed 6,000."

The following telegram, conveying somewhat similar news, was received at the War Office from Lord Wolseley :—

"KORTI, February 1, 10.25 A.M.—News from Earle to 7 P.M., January 30. His advanced troops within about seven miles of Birti; but, owing to difficulties of river, he cannot concentrate force there until to-morrow. He may be ready to attack on 3rd inst. Colonel Butler, who commands advance guard, reconnoitred Birti, and found enemy there in strong position. I hope enemy will stand, as our column is strong. A deserter, lately from Berber, reports letter just received by enemy's commander at Birti from Emir at Berber, informing him we had occupied Metammeh, and had sent forward by steamers to Khartoum soldiers, cattle, and grain. He advised commander not to oppose our advance, that we were going to send troops and supplies across desert from Korosko to Abu Hamed. He reported the names of some sheikhs who had been killed in our victory at Abu Klea, and that rumour said Hussein Pasha Khalifa had died in Mahdi's camp. He says there are twenty-six survivors of Stewart's party in Berber. They are Syrians and Greeks. They are not kept prisoners, but cannot leave town."

The *Daily Telegraph* received on Monday the following telegram from its correspondent at Souakim :

"Giving the Berkshire Regiment one clear day's rest after its arrival here, General Fremantle made a reconnaissance in force this morning at five o'clock towards Kasheem, eight miles to the west of Souakim. The force consisted of two guns Royal Horse Artillery, 100 sabres 19th Hussars, 60 Egyptian Cavalry, 600 Berkshire Infantry, 30 Engineers, and 30 Marines. The Cavalry and Artillery first came upon the enemy, who were found in considerable force and in a position too strong to attack, owing to the thick scrub surrounding it. The Artillery and Cavalry tried to bring the enemy up to the Infantry, which was formed in square; but the enemy, after being shelled by our Artillery, refused to attack the square in its well-chosen position, and our force retired to camp at nine o'clock. One Egyptian trooper was wounded. Col. Kelly, the brigade major, had a narrow escape, his horse being killed under him during the enemy's charge; one hussar's horse was also killed. The enemy's loss is supposed to have been heavy, as the artillery fired over thirty rounds of shrapnel at short range. Many were seen to fall, but the enemy was determined not to fight. The force at Tamanieb Kasheem is reported to number over 5,000, and the rebels hold all the coast from Rowcyah to Agig, as well as the roads to the interior. The negotiations with the Habab tribe have failed, and that horde has joined Osman Digma."

With reference to the reconnaissance, the General Commanding at Cairo telegraphed to the War Office :—

"Following from Fremantle, Feb. 1.—Reconnaissance Hasheen at daybreak. Squadron 19th Hussars, squadron Egyptian, and two guns under Kelly; Berkshire, with camel corps on plateau in support. Shelled enemy's camp. We found position very strong and enemy very numerous and courageous on their own ground, coming on with loud yells; but they would not leave Khar and broken ground. One Egyptian soldier wounded. Kelly's horse killed, and one hussar's horse. Force back at Souakim at 9 a.m. Hasheen Wells lie few miles south of Handoub, due west of Souakim and three miles nearer."

Telegraphing on Sunday, the *Standard* correspondent with General Earle's force says :—

"A deserter came in from Birti yesterday with the news that the enemy had evacuated their position at that village on Friday night, and had gone away to Berber. This morning General Earle, with Colonel Butler, a squadron of the 19th Hussars, the Egyptian Camel Corps, and half a battalion of the Black Watch, reconnoitred the enemy's position. Finding that all was quiet, they pushed on and entered the village, and discovered that the story told by the deserter was true, and that the enemy had evacuated the place, leaving behind only some women, old men, and their stores of grain and cattle. The village is situated on a bend of the river, and had been strengthened by a stone wall 3ft. high, carried at right angles to the river across the face of the village upon which we should naturally approach it. General Earle, with the cavalry, rode on three miles beyond the village. He found the country still broken and rocky, but with some fair grazing land for the cavalry and camels.

"The Rahami Cataract, two miles and a half in length, will have to be surmounted by the boats before they reach Birti, but it has been ascertained that above are eight miles of quiet water. The Black Watch are at present on their way up to Birti. So far the distance which has been made by the boats since the start is twenty-three miles, and this had taken the troops seven days of almost continuous labour. We know nothing for certain as to the cataracts higher up; but if the difficulties at all equal those already encountered, the time which the journey up to Metammeh by water will take will be very greatly in excess of the calculations made before starting. The natives who have come in say that the enemy have been greatly puzzled by the enormous number of our boats, and by the occupation of both banks of the river by our troops. They thought that the reports they had received of the strength of the advancing force must have greatly understated the number of men. The mistake on their part is not unnatural, for the flotilla of boats is so numerous that it might well give the impression that a very large force was advancing.

"Two uncles of Suleiman Wad Gamr, the leader of the enemy, came in to-day. They have long been engaged in a blood feud with Suleiman, and were anxious to join us, but were afraid to make any movement until the Arabs retreated before our advance. Even more important than the fact that Birti has been evacuated is the news that the Arabs have retreated direct to Berber. Upon this point all the prisoners speak positively, and say that some of the Berber troops were with Suleiman. Their retirement to Berber will enable the communications to be opened up between Korosko and Abu Hamed, and will permit of stores being sent on to us there across the desert. No opposition is expected now until we have passed Abu Hamed. Some very interesting information is expected to be obtained from the prisoners taken at Birti relative to the massacre of Colonel Stewart's party."

The *Standard* correspondent at Korti sends the following, the substance of a statement as to the massacre of Colonel Stewart and his companions which has been made by Hussein Ismail, one of the stokers on board Stewart's steamer, the *Abdai*, who has escaped from the Arabs and joined General Earle's column :—

"We left Khartoum about six months ago. There were with us two other steamers. On board the *Abdai* were Colonel Stewart, two Pachas, two European Consuls, Hassan Bey, twelve Greeks, and some Egyptian soldiers, besides the crew.

"When we reached Berber we shelled the forts there. After this the other steamers went back. We came on down the Nile. Nothing happened till we had passed Abu Hamed, but on the 18th of September the steamer struck on a rock. We were then passing through Wad Gamr's country. As we had passed down we had seen the people running away into the hills on both sides of the river.

"When it was found that the steamer could not be got off the rock, the small boat, filled with useful things, was sent to a little island near us. Four trips were made. Then Colonel Stewart himself spiked the guns and threw them overboard, and also two boxes of ammunition.

"The people now came down to the right bank in great numbers, shouting, 'Give us peace, and grain.' We answered 'Peace.' Suleiman Wad Gamr himself was in a small house near the bank, and he came out and called to Colonel Stewart to land without fear, but said that the soldiers must be unarmed or the people would be afraid of them.

"Colonel Stewart, after talking it over with the others, then crossed in the boats, with the two English Consuls and Hassan Bey, and entered the house of the blind man, Fakri Etman, to arrange with Suleiman for the purchase of camels to take us all down to Dongola. None of the four had any arms, with the exception of Colonel Stewart, who carried a small revolver in his pocket. While they were in the house we began to land in the boat.

"After a little time we saw Suleiman come out of the house, with a copper waterpot in his hand. He made signs to the people, who were all gathered near the house. They immediately divided into two parties, one entering the house, and the other rushing down towards us who were gathered on the bank, shouting and waving their spears. I was with the party who had landed when they charged down. We all threw ourselves into the river. The natives fired, killing some in the river, many others were drowned, and the rest speared as they came near the bank. I swam to the island, and hid there till dark, when I was made prisoner with some others, and sent to Birti.

"I heard that Colonel Stewart and the two Englishmen were killed at once. Hassan Bey held the blind man before him, so that they could not spear him. They spared his life, and he afterwards escaped to Berber. Two artillerymen, two sailors, and three natives are, I believe, still alive at Berber, where they were sent by Suleiman. All the money found on board and in the pockets of those they killed was divided among the men who did the murder. Everything else of value was placed in two boxes and sent under a guard to Berber. The bodies of Colonel Stewart and the others were thrown at once into the river."

The above statement tallies very closely with the first report of the massacre which reached Dongola, and shows how accurate at times is the information of the natives.

Lord Wolseley had issued a special general order as to the progress and conduct of the boats. He says that the following battalions, in the order named, have completed the journey from Sarras to Debbeh in the quickest time :—First, the Royal Irish; second, the Gordon Highlanders; third, the West Kent. The Second Division of the Naval Brigrde, under Lieutenant van Roughnet, the Royal Irish, and the West Kent, have particularly distinguished themselves by the excellent order in which they have brought up the boats and supplies. The Second Division of the Naval Brigade and Captain Forster's Company of the Royal Irish handed over the stores entrusted to them in complete order as received, nothing being either damaged or missing.

Lord Wolseley congratulates the Royal Irish Regiment on having won the small prize offered to them as a mark of his personal appreciation of the toils which all have undergone. He hopes that, as they have been the first on the river, so they may be among the first to enter Khartoum.

The General recognises fully the gratifying way in which all the battalions under his command have worked, and warmly thanks both officers and men for the untiring spirit they have exhibited in overcoming the serious obstacles they have had to encounter. All have worked cheerfully under severe privations and continued and arduous toil. Lord Wolseley will have pleasure in bringing their energy and discipline under the notice of her Majesty.

Notwithstanding the information gained by the reconnaissance made from Souakim the other day—that a large force of hostile Arabs were encamped on the flank of the line of march—eighty horsemen rode out on Tuesday to the wells at Handoub and burned some huts there. They were attacked on their way home, but managed to reach Souakim with comparatively slight loss. A correspondent of the *Daily News* has telegraphed this account of the affair :—

"This morning a reconnaissance was made to Handoub, ten miles on the Berber road, by a mixed force of forty sabres of Hussars and forty Egyptian cavalry. They succeeded in surprising Handoub. The inhabitants fled, leaving everything behind. The village was burnt by the Hussars, who captured the camels and cattle. On their return the rebels from Tamai and Hasheen cut them off, completely blocking the road to Souakim. After a desperate ride eastwards to the sea-coast, followed by overwhelming numbers on camels, the force managed to find its way back. The rebels are estimated at 5,000 men. Our losses were eight Hussars and three Egyptians missing; eleven Hussar horses and seven Egyptian horses killed. The enemy's loss was trifling."

A correspondent of the *Times* gives the following account of the return :—

"On the return of the force the scouts reported that a large number of the enemy were drawn up in front at a distance of one mile from Handoub, extending for a mile across the plain, and posted under cover of the thick bush. Soon afterwards the scouts were driven in on the main body by the enemy's fire. The cavalry then tried to turn the enemy's right flank, under a heavy fire and a most determined advance. This manœuvre was not accomplished without great difficulty, owing to the rough nature of the ground in the proximity of the rebels. The Hussars lost eight men and eleven horses killed or missing, and the Egyptians three killed and six horses missing."

Prompt steps have been taken by the War Office authorities to replace the officers who have been killed or severely wounded during the late operations in the Soudan. In addition to the Cavalry and Artillery officers who left England for Egypt in the *Kaisir-i-Hind* last week, a detachment will proceed eastward on Wednesday next by the steamer *Malwa*, and a further reinforcement will follow in a few days.

According to a Cairo telegram, the following temporary appointments have been made :—General Sir Herbert Stewart is succeeded by Major-General Sir Redvers Buller, while Sir Evelyn Wood succeeds Sir Redvers Buller as Chief of the Staff with Lord Wolseley; Brigadier-General Grenfell succeeds Sir Evelyn Wood as Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian Army, being replaced by Colonel Clery in the command of the lines of communication on the Nile. As General Stephenson is unable to leave Cairo, Major-General Dormer, Chief of his Staff, was to start this morning on a tour of inspection up the Nile, in the course of which he will visit the cataracts.

THE FALL OF KHARTOUM.

The public have been watching with the most intense interest the progress of our troops under General Stewart across the Bayuda Desert, and when they had gained a position on the Nile, after hard fighting and glorious victories, within a comparatively short distance of Khartoum, we felt that all anxiety for the safety of General Gordon was at an end, and we were hourly expecting the news that Sir Charles Wilson and the defenders of Khartoum had met; but instead have come the tidings—officially confirmed—that Sir C. Wilson was two days too late in reaching the city, and that when he did so it was only to find that it was in the possession of the Mahdi's followers.

The official announcement of the sad news was made as follows at noon on Thursday :—

"Telegrams have been received at the War Office from Lord Wolseley announcing the fall of Khartoum on the 26th January.

"Sir Charles Wilson arrived there on the 28th, to find the place in the hands of the enemy.

"He returned under a heavy fire from the river banks.

"Steamers in which he returned were wrecked some miles below the Shabluka Cataract.

"The whole party were saved, and landed on an island, where they are in safety.

"A steamer has gone to fetch them.

"Fate of Gordon uncertain.

"Lord Wolseley reports Sir H. Stewart doing well, and that nearly all the wounded were being brought to Gakdul."

Some further particulars have transpired from official sources respecting the fall of Khartoum. After Sir Charles Wilson and his party were wrecked a messenger was sent along the Nile bank to the British camp at Gubat, the information he brought being at once sent across the desert to Lord Wolseley, at Korti. Afterwards Colonel Stuart Wortley came down to Gubat in a small boat, and then a second messenger was sent on to Korti with fuller despatches than those sent by the first messenger. Both arrived safely at Korti. The Arabs at Metammeh received news of the fall of Khartoum before the messengers set out across the desert for Lord Wolseley, and the rebels showed their appreciation of the victory over General Gordon by repeated salvoes of artillery. Sir Charles Wilson is believed to have had one of his two steamers wrecked in going up to Khartoum, and the remaining one wrecked in returning, the low water rendering navigation extremely dangerous. The rebels lined the banks of the

Nile, and maintained a heavy fire upon the steamer, no less than four Krupp guns being in position at Halfiyeh. At Omdurman, also, the steamer had to run the gauntlet of a heavy fire, thus showing that the report that the place had been captured by the Mahdi was correct. On nearing Khartoum the rebel fire became hotter than before, one continuous storm of bullets striking the little vessel. The Island of Tuti was found to be strongly occupied by the enemy, but still Sir Charles Wilson pushed on right up to Khartoum itself. Here the firing was maintained, and it then became apparent that the place was in the hands of the Mahdi's adherents. Nothing could be done in the face of the overwhelming force of rebels holding the place, and the vessel steamed out of range. It was apparent, however, that the palace in which Gordon resided had been gutted; but whether this occurred after General Gordon's capture, or during an assault upon the place, is not known. It is generally believed that Khartoum fell through treachery, the officer in charge of the ramparts opening the gates to the rebels on the night of January 26. The officer in charge on that occasion is believed to have been Faraz Pasha. Although Sir Charles Wilson remained for some time in the neighbourhood of Khartoum, he was unable to gather any definite intelligence regarding Gordon's fate, and whether he is killed, a prisoner in the Mahdi's hands, or still holding out in some stronghold within Khartoum itself is at present a mystery. It is generally believed, however, that the Mahdi holds him as a hostage, and in that case no harm is likely to happen to him, the Mohammedans holding it a deadly sin to slay a "holy" man, General Gordon being regarded in that light. It is believed that Metammeh will be assaulted at all hazards on the arrival of the reinforcements at Gubat, in order that British prestige may be re-established in the native mind.

The great public interest excited by the intelligence was manifest throughout the metropolis—in the streets, on the Stock Exchange, in the clubs, and at the public offices. On the Stock Exchange the effect was to send down Egyptian Stocks 1¼ to 2 per cent., and a general desire to sell was manifested by the holders of these securities. Consols also declined ⅜ to 100½ ¼ for account, in view of the prospective expenditure on future operations.

Urgent summonses were issued for a Cabinet Council, which was held at noon yesterday, and the absent Ministers speedily made their way up to town. Earl Granville arrived in London, from Walmer, *viâ* Dover, shortly after five o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and Lord Hartington came up very soon afterwards, while Mr. Gladstone reached London at eight o'clock in the evening from Holker Hall.

Throughout the provinces the news was received with consternation and regret. At Edinburgh the greatest excitement prevailed from an early hour, and as no later editions of the morning papers were issued, the newspaper offices were besieged by crowds anxious for further details. At Sheffield the news produced a painful impression, and both political parties there regard the disaster as of the gravest character, while universal disappointment was expressed that so brilliant a resistance and so costly an expedition should have been in vain when its triumphant completion was expected. At Woolwich, where General Gordon's early life was spent, and with whose garrison the Gordon family have been closely associated for over a hundred years past, the intelligence caused great consternation, and general solicitude was expressed for the fate of the gallant General. Public excitement was very great at Dewsbury, and the Mayor at the Town Council meeting expressed the general sorrow at the receipt of the news. A profound sensation was created at Cardiff, and the business of the Glamorganshire Assizes was momentarily suspended while Mr. Justice Stephen and the jury perused a telegram announcing the unwelcome intelligence. In Brighton and at Bath great excitement was caused among the residents and visitors, and the published announcements of the news were eagerly read. In the Potteries, and at Hanley and Stoke particularly, the information was received amid great excitement, and at the political clubs and institutions the subject was the all-absorbing topic, universal sorrow being expressed at the defeat of General Gordon. At Luton, Dunstable, Exeter, Plymouth, Ipswich, and elsewhere the news created a great sensation.

The new development of the prospects of the expedition is strongly commented on in military circles, and amongst a large section of military officers the opinion is expressed that if the campaign assumes extended proportions—as it is expected it will—the route by which reinforcements should be sent to Major-General Stewart should be by way of the desert from Souakim to Berber. The fact that Sir Herbert Stewart's force has successfully traversed an extent of 185 miles of desert from Korti to Gubat is taken as confirming the opinion long held by Sir Samuel Baker and many military officers, that the Souakim-Berber route of 230 miles across the desert is the most feasible route by which troops can be rapidly sent into the Southern Soudan. It is urged that the Nile route virtually stands condemned, both on account of the length of time occupied in traversing it and the difficulties to be encountered. The idea of despatching strong reinforcements to Souakim to march on Berber is advanced by several military authorities.

In Cairo intense excitement prevails owing to the news of the fall of Khartoum and the uncertainty as to the fate of General Gordon. It was thought that others than the Arabs were instrumental in surrendering the town. Rumours circulated that 2,000 persons had been massacred at Khartoum.

At Alexandria the news of the fall of Khartoum cast a gloom over the entire European colony, and much sympathy is expressed for General Gordon. This unexpected calamity will, it is felt, increase the native ill-feeling against Europeans, and a larger force of British troops is considered necessary at Cairo, Alexandria, Suez, and Port Said.

In Paris on Thursday nothing was thought of nor spoken of but the disastrous news that Khartoum had fallen, and that General Gordon was in the hands of the Mahdi. At the Embassy no news was received beyond what was communicated by the Havas Agency; but the hope was entertained at the Chancellerie in the Faubourg St. Honoré that Gordon was a prisoner in the hands of the Mahdi, who would naturally be anxious to retain so valuable a hostage. The sorrow and indignation felt among the English community cannot be described. Even the French admit that, but for the unjustifiable delay in sending out a force to rescue General Gordon, this crowning calamity would not have occurred.

In Berlin the news of the fall of Khartoum created a great sensation, and much surprise at the unexpectedness of the event. The impression prevailed that the difficulties of the British forces have now greatly increased.

THE STORY OF THE DEFENCE OF KHARTOUM.

General Gordon left London for Khartoum on the 18th of January, 1884. The Parliamentary Blue Books show that the Government entertained the idea of utilising General Gordon's services seven weeks before they absolutely enlisted them. On the 5th of January it was announced that General Gordon had accepted a commission from the King of the Belgians to proceed as his representative to the Congo. At that time General Gordon was in Brussels, and he did not arrive in England until some days later. On the 9th of January Colonel Coetlogon telegraphed from Khartoum to the Khedive strongly urging an immediate withdrawal from the town. He said that one-third of the garrison were untrustworthy, and that even if it were twice as strong as it was it would not hold Khartoum against the whole country. On the 15th Gordon arrived in London from Southampton and had an interview with Lord Wolseley at the War Office, when he expressed himself in sanguine terms as to the ease with which the difficulties in the Soudan might be overcome. On the morning of the following day General Gordon left London for Brussels. On the 17th it was announced that the Government had requested Gordon to proceed at once to Egypt. General Gordon returned post haste from Brussels on the 18th, received his instructions, and in the evening of the same day left with Colonel Stewart for the Soudan. One week later he reached Cairo, and on the 18th of February, exactly one month after his departure from London, he entered Khartoum, where he was received "with wonderful demonstrations of welcome on the part of the population." On the day of his arrival at Khartoum General Gordon sent a telegraphic despatch recommending that Zobehr should be given a commission of government. The popular enthusiasm with which General Gordon's arrival was greeted increased when his first acts became known. The day after his arrival he was employed in liberating prisoners, in burning the records of debt, and in removing the white garrison to Berber. On the 27th of February he issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of the Soudan stating that he would be compelled to use severe measures against those who did not desist from rebellion, and also that "British troops are now on their way, and in a few days will reach Khartoum." But still more important and significant were his official despatches to Sir Evelyn Baring of the same date, following up one of the 26th of February, in which he said—"If Egypt is to be quiet Mahdi must be smashed up. . . . I repeat that evacuation is possible, but you will feel effect in Egypt, and will be forced to enter into a far more serious affair in order to guard Egypt. At present it would be comparatively easy to destroy Mahdi." And, in fact, he offered to do it with another £100,000, 200 Indian troops at Wady Halfa, and an officer at Dongola. But above all he insisted on the necessity of sending Zobehr without delay to co-operate with him. While he was sending almost daily expressions of his view as to the only way of carrying out the policy of evacuation, it was also becoming clear to him that he would very soon be cut off from the rest of Egypt. His first remark on this subject was to express "the conviction that I shall be caught in Khartoum," and on the 3rd of March he wrote—"Even if I was mean enough to escape I have no power to do so." Within a few days communications with Khartoum were interrupted, and the receipt and despatch of messages became exceedingly uncertain. On the 8th and 16th of April, however, General Gordon succeeded in getting messages through to Sir Evelyn Baring. His last words were:—"I shall hold on here as long as I can, and if I can suppress the rebellion I shall do so. If I cannot, I shall retire to the equator, and leave you indelible disgrace of abandoning the garrisons of Sennaar, Kassala, Berber, and Dongola, with the certainty that you will eventually be forced to smash up the Mahdi under great difficulties if you would retain peace in Egypt." The complete investment or siege of Khartoum may be considered as having commenced on April 16; but before General Gordon was cut off from the outer world he had been able to express in the plainest terms three things. Only one was personal, and that was that the Government had rejected all his proposals and practically abandoned him. From the 16th of April till the 29th of September—a period of more than five months—nothing was heard of General Gordon. While the communications were still maintained, General Gordon sent his account of his first action with the Arabs. On the 17th of March he described a fight which he had had with them on the previous day. The Egyptian troops fired one volley and then turned and fled, being pursued and cut down by the Arabs. In fact, this fight was a massacre, as the Egyptian soldiers did not attempt the least resistance. Colonel Stewart, who commanded in person, was wounded, and the two pashas under him were subsequently convicted of treachery and shot. On the twenty-fifth of March General Gordon felt compelled to disarm 250 Bashi-Bazouks who refused to move, and on that and other days he engaged the rebels from his steamers, inflicting serious loss upon them. But he would not risk any more fighting on land. About this time he wrote, "For the present and for two months hence we are as safe here as at Cairo;" but a few days later he wrote, "We have provisions for five months and are hemmed in." After these despatches no message was received from Khartoum until Mr. Power's diary of the siege, commencing in March, and carrying the record of events down to the 31st of July, reached England by way of Kassala and Massowa, and was published on the 29th of September. This diary bore indirect testimony to the care and enterprise with which General Gordon had husbanded his resources and provided new means of carrying on the defence. On the 28th of April there were corn and biscuit for only four months; but at the end of July it was clear that they would last two months longer. At the same time it appeared that General Gordon had no money, and that he had to carry on the defence with paper money and promissory notes. But still more remarkable was the statement that the defenders of Khartoum, far from being heroes, were such poltroons that "one Arab can put 200 of our men to flight." That Khartoum had held out in this protracted manner was due solely to the energy and the vigorous measures of precaution taken by General Gordon, whose efforts were ably seconded by his gallant but unfortunate companions, Colonel Stewart and Mr. Power. In October despatches were received from General Gordon giving details of the siege, and stating what his intentions were with regard to the future. On the 17th of September he stated that he had already sent Stewart Pasha, Mr. Power, and the French Consul with regular troops and Bashi-Bazouks to retake Berber, and that he hoped at any moment to hear that they had succeeded. As well as can be judged, Colonel Stewart and his companions left Khartoum on the 10th of September, and with the force lent them for the purpose by General Gordon they, from their steamers, attacked the rebels at Berber and drove them out of the town. Colonel Stewart sent back the troops and steamers to Khartoum, and he and his European companions, Mr. Power and M. Herbin, resolved to make their way down the river in a small steamer. The boat, as described on another page, struck on a rock near Wady Gama, and the whole party were treacherously murdered by a local sheikh, in whose declarations of friendship they had confided.

The first half of the siege of Khartoum closed with the departure of Colonel Stewart and Mr. Power. For five months General Gordon derived the comfort and assistance of their presence, but he has since been alone. In several despatches he expressed his indignation at the treatment he had received. When General Gordon sent away his colleagues it was well known that the greatest danger at Khartoum would come in the late autumn and winter, when the crops were gathered in and the Mahdi could get his followers to move to a distance from their homes. In October it was officially computed that General Gordon's provisions would last until November; but owing to the skilful manner in which he utilised his steamers in drawing supplies from Sennaar, and even down the river from the neighbourhood of Shendy, he was at the time of his later messages well provisioned, and apparently capable of holding out indefinitely. The month of November, which was introduced by unfavourable rumours from a French source of the capture of Khartoum and the death of General Gordon, was marked by the receipt of intelligence more decidedly hopeful than any previously received. General Gordon's letter on the 4th of November showed that he was firmly established at Khartoum, and well supplied with provisions. He had even been joined by soldiers who had abandoned the cause of the Mahdi to attach themselves to him. The messenger who brought the letter declared that on receiving news of Lord Wolseley's expedition General Gordon had caused the town to be illuminated. He also stated that there was plenty of food, that corn was cheap, and that "General Gordon was very powerful, and believed in by every man in Khartoum." Another messenger affirmed that he was making his own powder, that he had twelve steamers, and that people were beginning to think his rule preferable to that of the Mahdi. On New Year's Day a message was received from him to the effect—"Khartoum all right, December 14;" and the bearer reported that he still had cigarettes, which are as inseparable companions of General Gordon as the Bible, Thomas à Kempis, and Stanford's maps of some of the dark places of the earth. More than one message or rumour of a less trustworthy character got through, but some of the statements were of so characteristic a nature as to suggest that they rested on a truthful foundation—as, for instance, the story that the Mahdi having summoned Khartoum to surrender, General Gordon replied, "Not for twelve years:" and again that he told the Mahdi, if he had a Divine mission, to dry up the waters of the Nile. The last news direct from Gordon was contained in Lord Wolseley's despatch announcing General Stewart's last victory and the departure of Sir Charles Wilson for Khartoum. It was given in a letter dated December 29, and containing only one line, saying that Khartoum was all right and could hold out for years.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The Hon. Francis J. Pakenham, Her Majesty's Minister Resident in Chili, has been appointed Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Buenos Ayres.

Sir Stafford Northcote attended a meeting held at Crediton on Saturday, to select a Conservative candidate to contest the New Malton division of Devonshire at the general election. Having expressed satisfaction that there was a substantial agreement that Colonel Trefusis should be asked to stand, Sir Stafford Northcote remarked that they had not so much to consider persons as policy, and he believed that the great body of reflecting men had come to the conclusion that it would be mischievous to the interests of the country to do anything that would again return the present Government to power. Sir Stafford went on to refer to the speeches of Mr. Bright and Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham. Mr. Bright spent a good deal of time in passing an eulogium on the measures of Liberal Governments during the last forty or fifty years and the great improvements which had taken place in the country during that period. Mr. Chamberlain told us that, although wealth had within the last twenty years increased very largely, it had done little or no good to labour generally; but the advantage had all gone to capital. He spoke of the result of the last twenty years as making the rich richer and the poor poorer. Sir Stafford continued:—

"I do not think that this is quite true. But if it is true, what a curious commentary it is upon the legislation of which Mr. Bright is so proud. If the Liberals, who have been so long in power, who have had such large majorities, such subservient majorities, and have been able to carry matters in Parliament pretty much as they please, and who have frequently told us that they were the men in possession of all the true secrets of wisdom, political economy, and so forth, how is it that the result of all their efforts has been to bring about a state of things so unsatisfactory that it is necessary to have a great revision of the laws to put things right? It makes one begin to doubt whether they are such thorough Solomons as they claim to be. They tell us—for instance, says Mr. Chamberlain—that in the last twenty years or so something like 800,000 labourers have been driven out of the country into towns or into foreign parts. I do not quite understand what he means by driven out. What has happened has been that temptations have been offered to labourers of higher wages and better opportunities of improving their position in towns and in the colonies, and they have gone forth of their own free will to seek for some better occupation and better pay, and the result has been that you have had a smaller number of labourers at home, and they have had a greater command of the labour market, and consequently they have had higher wages. Now, something may tell more or less against the farmer; but how it can tell against the labourer that we should have had inducements offered to him to emigrate to the towns or to the colonies, and that he should have left a smaller number of men in the country, and that smaller number of men able to command better wages, I confess it does not appear to me to be very clear."

Sir Stafford then referred to the main features of Conservative policy, among which were the maintenance of the great institutions of the country, of the House of Lords, and of the connection between Church and State. Having deprecated the proposal to pay members, so that we might have a number of professional politicians at one, two, or three hundred a year, Sir Stafford turned to affairs in the Soudan. After praising the gallantry of our troops, he said that we could not help asking what has been the necessity for this terrible expenditure of both men and money in the undertaking they are now going through. According to some Liberals, they were to go up to Khartoum and to bring away General Gordon, and then leave the country and have nothing more to do with it. But that would not be a creditable position for England. Some better arrangement than that will have to be made, and we looked to the Government to make it. With regard to the colonies, the policy of the Conservatives has been always that of strengthening them as an integral part of the empire. The confederation of the great North American provinces of Canada and the contiguous parts was effected by a Conservative Government, Lord Carnarvon being Colonial Secretary at the time. In the same sort of way the Conservatives were prepared and desired to treat the empire. That empire could be kept together, and would be kept together under God's blessing, only by the spirit and by the determination of the people of this country. If we began paltering and faltering and endeavouring to excuse ourselves from our responsibilities—still worse, if we kept on worrying our colonial fellow-subjects and leading them to think that we do not care for them, or that we are prepared to sacrifice them to this, that, or the other consideration—depend upon it, this great empire will come to such an end as will be a very serious disgrace to the people who are the rulers in this country at this time.

Mr. Cowan, formerly M.P. for Edinburgh, presided at a large meeting on Saturday night of the electors in the proposed new north-eastern division of the city, convened to hear Mr. Goschen. In the course of his address the right hon. gentleman said there was another ambition than merely striving after office, and when a man took an independent course he did not think it was necessary to look for a secret ambition. He had fought many a battle with and for his party, and he hoped to do so again. The only thing he would say was that he could not consent to be blindfolded with a party bandage, or to have a party muzzle clapped on his mouth. Speaking of Parliamentary reform, he said all parties appeared to be agreed that they ought to utilise the momentum which it would give to fetch up our arrears of legislation, and he indicated some of the questions which should be dealt with.

Mr. Goschen, in the course of his address, said: The new democracy was enthroned in power at a moment full of difficulties, and the temper of the new forces would be tried too soon. He justified the independent course he himself had so often taken, and said he had fought many a battle with his party and hoped to do so again. They might think the new electors had stormed the Constitution in the spirit of an enemy storming a town and demanding a ransom to abstain from plunder. But the new arbiters of the destinies of England would not think they had done their duty simply by a drastic application of the principle of self-interest. They were all agreed that there were many new needs to be faced; but there were many Liberals, thoroughly sound at heart, who did not believe that it was necessary to have a policy of root-and-branch changes in everything—in their treatment of taxation, in their treatment of contracts, and the interference of the State with the independence of individuals. They would face new problems, but in the old spirit. They would go forward with equal resolution, though displaying no crude panaceas, which had been proved over and over again to be useless for the accomplishment of the aims they had in view. He regarded the nationalisation of land as a crude panacea. He should also call the establishment of a Land Court to fix rents for every part of the United Kingdom a crude panacea. Let them try freedom first before they tried the interference of the State. On all the points on which he proposed to touch he wanted to plead the cause of freedom against State interference. He wished to see any fetters still remaining on the owners of land struck off which prevented them from dealing in the freest possible way with their land, and let them not rest till land was infinitely more saleable than it was at present. He did not see his way to any artificial planting of the agricultural labourer upon plots of land to be bought by communities and distributed amongst the labourers, but he thought there should be freedom in dealing with land as they had freedom in everything else. The three F's were not applicable to the United Kingdom. Taking the United Kingdom as a whole, they could not apply the system without disturbing the whole agricultural industry and running counter to the whole habits of farmers and labourers, and the whole mode in which agriculture was conducted. Mr. Goschen referred at some length to the burdens of taxation, the proposed protection duties, and the depression of trade, and claimed that in almost all that he had said upon the question of land, upon the question of local government, upon the question of independence, and against State interference, he was a truer disciple of the Prime Minister than some recent speakers who perhaps, officially, might be said to be nearer and dearer to him. He did not

believe that the great Liberal leaders had sympathy in raising the question of the natural right of man to the property of his neighbour, nor did he believe that they held the theory of ransom or insurance; and he would plead very earnestly with his fellow-countrymen to ask them this: whether it was a fair picture to give of this country and this society to represent it as consisting of two camps—a camp of the poor and a camp of the rich, standing, as it were, in antagonism to each other? That was not his view of the state of society in this country. The teaching was dangerous which would incense one class against the other; and when it was asked what ransom was to be paid, might he ask to whom was it to be paid? There were two policies that could be put before the country. The one was to go forward with a policy of union, freedom, justice, and common sense; the other was a policy of class conflicts and wild dreams. He knew which the country would choose in the end, and he believed that the new democracy would do its duty if those who aspired to lead it would only tell the truth.

Colonel STANLEY delivered an electoral address at Lytham on Saturday night, and in the course of it he drew special attention to the Egyptian question. He observed that in 1880 the present Government said, and he believed they said it sincerely, that their ambition was to devote themselves to home politics, to evade foreign complications, and to avoid war. But they had been obliged to take their part in foreign affairs as much as any Government who had not held out those declarations. At this moment the country was proud of the military achievements of the troops under Sir Herbert Stewart. It was now rather more than a year from the time when General Gordon first entered Khartoum, and how much had the Government to thank themselves for? They saw what the strength, the courage, trust and determination of one man—although he were one amongst a thousand—had been able to effect in the holding of Khartoum; and in one of his last messages he said he could continue to hold it for years. From the moment of the bombardment of Alexandria, when Egypt lay before them, the Government had been as if they wanted to hide their head in the sands, and not to see that which every one else saw—that they themselves were responsible for the position of affairs which resulted from that act. The Government were responsible for everything that had happened in that country, and they were responsible for it now. All the blood, all the money that they would be called upon to vote by-and-by, had been expended absolutely and entirely to no purpose, practically with no definite issue. One tithe of determination and courage shown by their agent would have saved half the expenditure of blood and money. And now they found that they were likely, after having alone borne the heat of the day, to enter into a share with other countries.

Colonel STANLEY, M.P., also addressed a public meeting on Monday night in the Theatre Royal, Blackpool. Adverting to the enfranchisement of the agricultural population, he said he entertained no more doubt of their capacity to exercise the franchise in a proper spirit than he had of the capacity of urban electors to exercise the franchise. But he thought we did run some danger from persons who would seek to use the new power for their own purposes and to the public disadvantage. As regarded the land question, it would be well to know whether the extreme views expressed by Mr. Chamberlain were his alone, or were those of the Cabinet. Having personal experience of the troubles and trials of farming, he had always had rather a preference for small farms over the system of large farms; but he was certainly not in favour of violent legislative changes on such a question. Let the new Parliament deal on their merits with distinct legislative proposals; but he protested against those who as agitators chose to use vague language in talking about spoliation and restitution without duly considering what were the circumstances under which the system that they were attacking had grown up, and who were apparently anxious to invite a large, a new, and an unknown class to a predatory treatment of what had hitherto been the property of other persons. It would be very simple, although very absurd, to propose that the property of the landlords should become the property of the tenants; but such a process was not final, and might be applied to the new holders by a succeeding class. Assuming that land was a commodity which represented capital, there were three conditions under which it could be held—namely, by the landlord, by the tenant, or by the State. If the State became the owner of the land, that would involve many millions of compensation to the expropriated landlords, and then the State would require the tenants to pay interest, which would virtually amount to something not very widely differing from the rents they at present paid. If a farm was held at a fair rent, the tenant would then be in much the same position. If the rent was not fair the State would be the loser, and would then be called upon to pay the difference. It could only be met by something approaching to taxation raised on the rest of the community. If small holdings were desirable they ought to see an increase in their number; but, as they knew, small holdings were decreasing instead of increasing in number. There were those who said they should create a yeoman proprietary. He would be glad to see this done, if it were found practicable; but in his view the difficulty would arise, when they got a man into this position, of keeping him there, except by a system of entail which would be infinitely harder than that from the fetters of which they were now seeking to escape. He would like to see Mr. Chamberlain expend a certain amount of his wealth in trying in the practical way the very experiments he was asking the State, in a wholly untried manner, to anticipate by legislation. Colonel Stanley then went on to speak of the colonial and Egyptian questions.

Sir CHARLES DILKE presided on Monday night at the Athenæum, Shepherd's-bush, at a public meeting, which resolved to form a Liberal association for the proposed new borough of Hammersmith. In his opening speech Sir Charles remarked that a writer in a very famous periodical pretended to think that when he had spoken at North Kensington of "robbery of commons," he was alluding to the enclosure of commons by Act of Parliament. He need not tell those who were still his constituents that he was a law-abiding person, and that he should not dream of applying the term "robbery" to the provisions of Acts of Parliament. They stopped, no doubt, many enclosures without Act of Parliament, but they could not stop them all. Over and over again they failed to stop enclosures purporting to be enclosures under the ancient statute of Merton and some illegal enclosures. One of the advantages which he and others expected from the enfranchisement of the labourers was the cessation of future robbery of this kind. As to the new electors, he thought that the constituencies of 1886 were likely to look for candidates of an advanced type, and that those constituencies which we were now about to create would in home affairs look for Radical reform, and in foreign affairs for that vigour which means not war but peace. Responding subsequently to a vote of confidence in the Government, Sir Charles observed that one of the speakers had remarked that Sir Simon de Montfort enfranchised the towns, but that it was left to the present time to work out the enfranchisement of the labourers. Yes; but in the time of Sir Simon de Montfort the labourers were the small freeholders of the country. Each man possessed and cultivated his own plot of land, and each man voted as a freeholder at the county elections. Those men formed a class which had been too much lost to the country; and it was one of the objects of the advanced Liberal party to restore the people to the land in the sense that ownership of land should be more widely diffused among the people of the country than was the case at present. He did not himself believe that protection was likely to make way in this country, even amoung the agricultural labourers.

Mr. W. T. MARRIOTT addressed a number of his constituents at an amalgamated ward meeting of the Brighton Conservative Association on Monday. He severely criticised Mr. Chamberlain's recent speeches, and contended that his policy was not for the good of the nation; adding that the Liberal, and even the Radical, press had now found that he was deceiving the people in order to put power into his own hands. Referring to the land question, he pointed out that Mr. Chamberlain did not make the experiment himself by purchasing some of the waste land near Birmingham, and letting it out to the starving poor of the neighbourhood. Even if such a course should not be profitable, it would prove the genuine nature of his alleged desires to forward the happiness of the working classes. He protested against the tactics adopted by Mr. Chamberlain, which were devices to raise hopes in the people that could never be fulfilled.

An enthusiastic meeting of Conservatives was held in Rochester on Saturday evening to inaugurate a branch of the Primrose League. The founder of the Habitation, Major-General Forbes, occupied the chair, and among those present were the Hon. Claud Hay, Colonel Welman, chairman of the Gillingham Conservative Association; Colonel Cooper, Mr. G. Delacour, chairman of the Chatham Conservative Association; Mr. W. W. Hayward, chairman of the Rochester Constitutional Association; the Revs. Norman Lee and W. Deardon, and most of the prominent Conservatives of the city.

Sir RICHARD CROSS spoke at the second annual dinner of the Rugby Working Men's Association on Wednesday night. In responding to the toast of "The House of Commons and Success to the Conservative Cause," he said the new voters should be induced to use their power, not for selfish interests or for robbery and plunder, but for the permanent benefit of the State. It was incomprehensible that a Minister of the Crown should reopen agitation by schemes for the confiscation of land, payment of members, and social nostrums. He called on the other members of the Cabinet to disown Mr. Chamberlain's rashly expressed doctrines, and indeed he could not understand how they could allow him to continue as their colleague. Mr. Goschen's Edinburgh speeches indicated a breaking down of the old party lines, and that patriotic men of both parties might unite against revolutionary schemes as well as in favour of strengthening our Colonial Empire. The passing of the Franchise Bill would bring the Government face to face with the electors, who would condemn their want of decision and firmness in both foreign and colonial policy. In Egypt they had never rightly acted up to the responsibilities which they had brought upon themselves. Let us have a really united Empire instead of setting class against class.

Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, M.P., was on Wednesday the principal guest of the True Blue Club, Gloucester, at their annual banquet. In the course of his speech he said the Conservative party did not fear the effects of the new Reform Bill, because they had always encouraged the extension of the franchise. He, however, did not think that when the appeal to the constituencies came, it would be altogether favourable to the Liberal party. It must be borne in mind that the measure was not the work of one party, but of the House of Commons, assisted by the House of Lords as a body. With regard to the Egyptian policy of the Government, whilst rejoicing at the relief of General Gordon, he could not help condemning the Ministry for the negligence which had led to the necessity of the campaign, and which was a page in history almost unexampled. Notwithstanding the truce which now existed, when Parliament met the Government would be closely questioned as to Egyptian affairs, and the Liberal party would be put on their defence. The socialist doctrines and wild theories of Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Charles Dilke would not satisfy this country.

The second annual dinner of the Rugby and district Conservative Working Men's Association was held on Wednesday evening. The Earl of DENBIGH responded for the toast of the House of Lords, and Sir R. A. CROSS for the House of Commons, in a speech in which he reviewed the political situation and attacked the Government for their hand-to-mouth policy.

Lord EDMOND FITZMAURICE attended a meeting of Liberals of the proposed northern division of Lambeth, held in Lambeth Baths on Wednesday evening, and in response to a vote of confidence in the Government said we were at a very serious stage of affairs in Egypt, and he could not be expected to make any statement of a future policy. It would be impossible to scuttle out of Egypt at present, and he did not think the House of Commons would consent to a protectorate.

Sir Saul Samuel presided on Wednesday evening at the house dinner of the Empire Club, and Viscount BURY, in responding to the toast of the evening, said the Imperial League had begun their work of federation at the wrong end. He disagreed with a cut-and-dried Imperial federation. If the independence of the colonies was interfered with they did away with federation.

The Conservatives of Devonshire met at Exeter on Wednesday—Sir Stafford Northcote presiding—and resolved upon a scheme of organisation to meet the altered circumstances brought about by the Seats Bill. Special thanks were given to the Marquis of Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote for their action in securing the introduction of the Seats Bill before the passage of the Franchise Bill, and a resolution was passed in favour of Imperial Federation.

The following letter from Mr. Chamberlain has been received by the Rev. Anson Cartwright, a Devonshire clergyman, in answer to a communication calling his attention to charges made against him by Mr. W. J. Harris, M.P., the Conservative candidate for the Teignbridge division of Devon:—"Sir,—The statement of Mr. W. J. Harris, M.P., is, of course, only one of the innumerable slanders with which Tories of a certain class meet the arguments of their political opponents. If you desire to have any further information concerning my connection with business, I can only refer you to any merchant or manufacturer of respectability in Birmingham, who will be able to satisfy you on the subject. If Mr. Harris's statement had the slightest foundation it is not very likely that the artisans of Birmingham would have returned me again and again as their representative. Yours truly.—J. CHAMBERLAIN."

THE CITY OF LONDON TRUSS SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the governors of this excellent charity was held at the offices, 35, Finsbury-square, on Wednesday last. The Rev. Prebendary Whittington presided during the temporary absence of the esteemed treasurer, John Norbury, Esq., who arrived during the reading of the Report, and afterwards took the chair. Amongst those present were John Norbury, Esq. (treasurer), the Rev. Crowther Benyon, C. Greenwood, Esq., Albert Banister, Esq., the Rev. T. S. Echalaz, Dr. S. C. Griffith, John Kelsey, Esq., Alfred Lyon, Esq., the Rev. J. J. G. Nash, R. J. Patten, Esq., William Pitman, Esq., C.C., W. K. Taunton, Esq., W. Webster, Esq., Dr. Beresford Ryley, W. H. Pitman, Esq., Rev. Prebendary Whittington, M.A., and J. Whittington, Esq. (secretary).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the previous meeting having been passed, the Report for the year 1884 was presented and read by the secretary. It was on the whole of a highly encouraging character, as may be gathered from the following extracts:—

"The total income of this chairity for 1884 contrasts very favourably with that for the previous year, being £5,810 15s. 4d. (exclusive of the balance brought forward on January 1, 1884—viz., £533 9s. 6d.) as against £3,990 17s. 9d. in 1883 (exclusive of the balance in January of that year—viz., £215 19s., and the proceeds of Consols sold out—viz., £1,533 18s.). From the auditors' balance sheet it will be seen that although a large proportion of the increase is derived from legacies paid in during 1884, yet that £140 of the additional income arises from new and additional subscriptions and donations, and £74 from the difference in the rent paid by the Society's tenant in the two years' under review. The only feature in the accounts which is slightly discouraging is a small diminution in the renewed annual subscriptions, arising from an increasing number of deaths among the old and early subscribers to the charity, and some withdrawals in consequence of the depressed state of commerce.

"Under such circumstances the importance of continued, and if possible *increased*, exertions on the part of all the Society's friends to bring in new subscribers to the charity is obvious.

"The details of the principal receipts are as under: Renewed annual subscriptions, £1,843 10s.; new and additional subscriptions, £248 17s.; life subscriptions and donations, 902 18s. 6d.; Offertory at St. Mary the Virgin, South Hampstead, £5 17s. 7d.; collections at St. Peter-upon-Cornhill, £42 4s. 10d.; Offertory at St. Helen, Kensington, W., £7 9s. 3d.; Offertory at St. Margaret, Lothbury, £1 12s. 9d.; total, £3,052 9s. 11d.

"The following legacies were paid in by the executors during 1884, viz.—From Oxley English, Esq., £180; Samuel Lancaster, Esq., £500; Norman Macleod, Esq., £50; Charles Toms, Esq., £45; A. Tweedie, Esq., M.D., £100; E. Cox, Esq., £500; Miss McKenzie, £288 7s. 8d.; Mrs. Bean, £200; executors of Miss Hurst, £5 9s. 2d.; total, £1,868 16s. 10d. Notice of another legacy has been received for £100, and will doubtless be paid in during 1885.

"The patients relieved in 1884 were again in excess of the previous year, numbering no less than 9,248, being 122 more than the very large number relieved in 1883 (the highest ever recorded), and bringing up the total of patients relieved to the close of last year to 405,426. The patients (men, women, and children) were of all ages, from the little child less than a month old, to adults over ninety. The instruments supplied were in number 9,305."

The losses sustained by the Society by death were dwelt upon in the Report, special mention being made of that of the late esteemed governor, the Rev. W. A. B. Cator, whose bequest of £1,000 to the Society had lapsed by reason of Mrs. Cator surviving her husband. That lady has, however, the Report states, "offered through her son (J. A. Craven, Esq., Mr. Cator's executor), to make a special gift of £1,000 under certain conditions. The terms of this offer being of a very liberal character, your committee have accepted it with gratitude in a formal resolution, which the governors will forthwith at this annual general meeting be asked to sanction."

The Rev. Prebendary WHITTINGTON, in moving the adoption of the Report, congratulated the Society upon their financial position, notwithstanding the prevalent commercial depression. He also had to congratulate them upon the fact that the number of patients was greatly in excess of previous years, more especially that so large a number of persons as 2,000, in addition to the total (9,248) given as relieved, had applied for medical advice without needing instruments, proving how highly valued were the exceptional services rendered by the medical officers of the Society.

The resolution was seconded by FRANCIS SHARRATT, Esq., who fully endorsed the remarks of the Chairman. He did not know of any other society which gave back so much in return for the yearly subscription; for most valuable instruments were provided for those who were in need, and who were possessed of a Governor's letter of recommendation.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The resolution embodied in the Report having reference to the generous offer of Mrs. Cator was then put to the meeting and carried, on the motion of W. H. PITMAN, Esq., seconded by W. WEBSTER, Esq.

The Rev. J. J. G. NASH moved, and the Rev. CROWTHER BENYON seconded,

That the best thanks of the meeting be given to C. Greenwood, Esq., and T. Hilhouse, Esq., for their kindness in auditing the accounts of the Society for the present year.

The resolution was carried, and in returning thanks C. GREENWOOD, Esq. expressed his decided opinion that the expenses of the Society were most carefully considered, and were very far from excessive.

Resolutions embodying the thanks of the meeting to the treasurer and the other trustees, to the honorary stockbrokers, and to the honarary solicitor were then put to the meeting, the speakers in each case bearing high testimony to the invaluable services rendered to the Society by those gentlemen. Special reference was made to the loss the Society had sustained by the death of the senior partner in the firm of Capel, Norbury and Co., one of the esteemed vice-presidents of the Society. The following resolution was proposed by the Rev. Prebendary WHITTINGTON, seconded by C. GREENWOOD, Esq., and carried unanimously:—

That the meeting has just heard with much regret of the death of their late esteemed vice-president, J. B. Capel, Esq. (the senior partner in the firm of Capel, Norbury, and Co.), and the governors hereby request the secretary to convey to the treasurer (J. Norbury, Esq.) and the members of Mr. Capel's family their sincere sympathy and condolence with them in the loss which the firm and family have sustained.

Dr. BERESFORD RYLEY moved—

That the following gentlemen be elected as the Committee for the ensuing year:—A. Banister, Esq., J. Charrington, Esq., the Rev. S. B. Crowther Benyon, W. Donne, Esq., J. L. Dowling, Esq., C.C., the Rev. T. S. Echalaz, Dr. S. C. Griffith, the Rev. H. J. Henderson, C. Hilhouse, Esq., J. Hill, Esq., H. Hill, Esq., J. Kelsey, Esq., E. J. Layton, Esq., A. Lyon, Esq., W. F. London, Esq., C.C., the Rev. J. J. G. Nash, R. J. Patten, Esq., W. Pitman, Esq., C.C., the Rev. A. D. Robinson, M.A., Francis Sharratt, Esq., W. K. Taunton, Esq., W. Webster, Esq., the Rev. Dr. White, and the Rev. Prebendary Whittington, M.A., and that the sincere thanks of the governors be tendered to the Committee for the constant attention to the interests of the charity, especial thanks being due to the Finance Committee for their care and watchfulness at all times.

In moving this resolution, Dr. RYLEY took occasion to remark that he fully endorsed all that had been said by previous speakers as to the benefits conferred upon the working-classes by this excellent Society. He knew of no other medical aid society that was more deserving of public support than the City of London Truss Society.

The resolution was seconded by C. GREENWOOD, Esq., and carried.

ALFRED LYON, Esq., and W. K. TAUNTON, Esq., members of the General and Finance Committees, responded, each bearing testimony to the great work the Society was doing.

The Rev. T. S. ECHALAZ, in moving a vote of thanks to the surgeons and assistant-surgeon, Messrs. J. A. Kinglon, J. Langton, and J. Macready, remarked that they had real cause to be proud of the service of those gentlemen, who laboured so well and rendered such valuable aid to the Society. Looking upon the work those gentlemen had done, he claimed as a right from the assembled governors a unanimous vote of thanks to the surgeons and assistant-surgeon of the Society.

The resolution having been seconded by W. PITMAN, Esq., C.C., it was carried with acclamation.

JOHN KELSEY, Esq., then proposed a vote of thanks to the esteemed and indefatigable secretary of the Society, Mr. J. Whittington, to whose labours he felt the prosperity of the Society was mainly due—services which were available at every hour of the day, and, he believed, night if required. He was always at his post, always courteous; and he trusted the Society would for very many years have the benefit of Mr. Whittington's invaluable assistance.

The resolution was seconded by A. BANISTER, Esq., and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairmen, the Rev. Prebendary Whittington, M.A., and J. Norbury, Esq., brought a highly successful meeting to a close.

A LESSON FOR MR. PARNELL.

The warnings which we addressed to Mr. Parnell and his associates last week have received a prompt justification from the fate which has overtaken another of the Irish conspiracy gang, Jeremiah Donovan—absurdly known as O'Donovan Rossa. The *Standard*, in a leading article on Wednesday, remarks: "There are persons who are not assasssins, nor overt apologists for assassins, who may, nevertheless, take warning by this eloquent incident. Mr. Parnell and his Parliamentary associates have never uttered a word in defence of the dynamite war; but they have studiously abstained from uttering a word against it. Without openly approving of it, they have deluded themselves with the belief that it has helped to serve their purpose. Mr. Parnell and his Parliamentary allies on the one side, and O'Donovan Rossa and his dynamite agents on the other, have to all appearance worked along distinct and separate lines. But the lines converge to one point. Both are seeking to reach the same end; and the Parliamentary army has never disclaimed and repudiated the dynamite army. Surely Mr. Parnell ought to be penetrating enough to observe, from what has happened to O'Donovan Rossa, that the leaders and instigators of violent movements are themselves as unlikely as any one else to escape scot-free. There is one point which the Separatist leaders should not overlook. The distance between considering that other people ought to be shot, and being considered by others deserving of a like fate is, as the case of O'Donovan Rossa shows, evidently a short one."

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure of showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

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} Commissaries of the Bishops of London and Bedford for West and North London Mission.

The Rev. Prebendary Ingram, St. Margaret's Rectory, 20, Finsbury-square, London, E.C.
} Hon. Treasurer: to whom contributions should be sent.

*** Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed "Messrs. Prescott and Co." Contributions may also be placed to the account of the Fund at Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co.

To the Editor of the "Guardian."

Sir,—Will you allow me to appeal through your columns for funds for the expenses of the Mission to be held next month in the western and northern portions of the diocese of London? In these parts there are numbers of very poor parishes, needing help as much as we did in the East-end. We were liberally helped, but very little has been sent for the second half of the Mission. Many of the clergy dare not incur the cost of the Mission (the printing, extra services, Missioners' travelling expenses, &c., always amounting to a considerable sum) without a promise of help, which at present cannot be given. I only write because the diocese has lost the wise and loving head which would have directed the movement, and the ready hand which would have penned this appeal.

WM. WALSHAM BEDFORD (Bishop).

The Committee and Treasurer thankfully acknowledge the following further Contributions:—

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70.	From "E. A. B."	£3	0 0
71.	Offertory at Hampton-on-Thames, per Rev. R. Digby Ram	5	14 1
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77.	Lady Augusta Onslow	10	10 0
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87.	Offertory at St. Botolph, Aldersgate, per Rev. S. Flood Jones	5	14 4
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96	From "G. P."	3	0 0
97.	Miss Cooper	0	10 0
98.	Mrs. Bannatyne	0	5 0
99.	J. G. Palmer, Esq.	10	0 0
	Total for week ending Jan. 31, 1885	£98	14 11
	Previously announced	213	12 2
	Total	£312	7 1

DONATIONS are earnestly asked for. It is thought that a Fund for "General Expenses" and for "Rescue Work" of £1,500 will be sufficient

ARTHUR J. INGRAM.

Jan. 31, 1885.

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*** All Cheques and P.O. Orders to be made payable to E. D. MADDICK, 6, Whitefriars street.

JOHN BULL.

LONDON, February 7.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The fall of Khartoum is the one topic on the lips and close to the hearts of all Englishmen to-day. Indeed, in those ominous words pregnant of coming ill in the future, as well as of deepest anxiety in the present, the true "History of the Week" may be summed up. The dark clouds which hang around almost every other quarter of the political horizon may for the time gather unheeded in the presence of this thunderbolt from a sky which in our fools' paradise we thought to be blue. When the rumour was first published on Thursday morning incredulity mingled not a little with consternation, but later in the day the confirmation of that rumour by the publication of Lord WOLSELEY'S official despatch removed all hope. We are yet without details, and cannot even feel the gloomy satisfaction that we know the worst. Whether General GORDON himself be alive or dead is, at the time we write, mere matter of conjecture. All that is positively known is that the place which he has so long and so bravely defended is in the hands of the enemy.

Lord WOLSELEY states that Khartoum fell on the 26th of January, two days before Sir CHARLES WILSON arrived; but there is a very general feeling that, despite this positive statement, it may have fallen some time previously—some say as far back as the time of poor STEWART'S unexplained exodus from the city. If this be so, the scant messages from GORDON which have reached the English camp, including that of the 29th December, which had always a strange sound, were mere forgeries, cunningly concocted with a view of luring on the relieving force. The arrival of the steamers purporting to come from GORDON on which Sir CHARLES WILSON embarked is, in this point of view, part of the same scheme; and it may be that the wreck which is spoken of was in reality the escape of Sir CHARLES and his companions from these vessels. However this may be, there is no doubt that their position is one of great danger, and it will be a relief to find that they are in the comparative safety of the entrenchments at Gubat. Nor is it alone for them, or for the force at Gubat, that we feel profound alarm. The small party in charge of the wounded at Abu Klea have all along been a centre of much anxiety, and now that the fall of Khartoum has set free so large a force of Arabs, besides encouraging any waverers to declare themselves against us, a vast wave of foemen flushed with triumph is likely to sweep down upon the desert route. Lord WOLSELEY, too, at Korti is by no means in a position of safety, and both to advance and to retreat is a course full of danger. Rarely has a British commander been placed in a postion of greater responsibility, and if he, aided by the valour of his soldiers, can extricate himself from it without dishonour, and without a fearful loss of valuable life, we shall indeed have ground to be proud of our "only General."

Meanwhile, the country must lose no opportunity of pressing upon the attention of the men at home who are responsible for the fall of Khartoum and for the critical position of WOLSELEY, that it will no longer be trifled with, and that now, at all events, vigour and decision must be shown. The course to be adopted—whether to advance on Khartoum at all hazards despite the hot weather, to concentrate at Debbeh or some other suitable position on the Nile, or to make a dash on Berber—will be for Lord WOLSELEY to determine. But, in whatever he determines, he must be backed up with vigour. Ill-judged parsimony and half-hearted delay have had their opportunity, and we cannot afford again to hear those fatal words, "Too late," which have rung in our ears at every stage of the Ministerial policy in Egypt.

As we have said, all our other troubles are as nothing in the presence of this overwhelming calamity; but, looked at apart from it, they are certainly heavy enough. Any other week, when we were not full of GORDON'S fate and WOLSELEY'S danger, we should have dwelt upon the miserable results of misgovernment by wandering minstrelsy which meet our view in every part of the world. The Afghan Boundary Commission would be a fertile theme, and were it not so serious there would be something humorous in the contemplation of Sir PETER LUMSDEN hurried off to wander vaguely about among Cossack outposts, while the Russian Commissioner,

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CONTRIBUTIONS will be THANKFULLY RECEIVED by the Treasurer, V. G. M. Holt, Esq., 17, Whitehall-place; at the Bankers, National Provincial Bank of England, 212, Piccadilly; by the Secretary, Mr. William A. Blake; or by the Hon Secretary, Colonel J. W. F. Sandwith.

whom he fondly imagined he was to meet, is on his way to London "to settle important "details" which certainly ought to have been settled before the English Commissioner was sent forth on a wild-goose chase. Then we find the principle of the International Control in Egypt conceded by Lord GRANVILLE, and in Fiji we have another instance of that "vowing "he would ne'er consent, consented" policy of which our present FOREIGN SECRETARY is so great a master. By reopening the land question at the bidding of Prince BISMARCK we are acting not only in an undignified but in an unjust manner, unless we reopen the whole settlement of the land question. Portugal, too, has, it is probable, taken advantage of our well-known character for weakness and vacillation to seize the disputed territory which commands the mouth of the Congo, and, though we do not at the moment recollect any fresh slap in the face which we have received this week from the Boers, we have no doubt that next week will bring tidings of some new act of insolent defiance on their part. Look where we will, we see the same melancholy truth enforced upon our attention: how great is the change between the England of PITT—or, to come later down, the England of PALMERSTON or of BEACONSFIELD—from the England of GLADSTONE!

Had not the terrible news from the Soudan overshadowed everything else, it is probable that the attempt to assassinate JEREMIAH DONOVAN, who styles himself O'DONOVAN ROSSA, would have been the sensation of the week. As it is, the general feeling of regret that that attempt miscarried has been swamped by wider and more important interests. But, at the same time, the contemplation of the engineer hoist with his own petard, of the apostle of dynamite feeling in his own person the practical results of the lesson which he teaches, is not without its value. Perhaps, on the whole, it is better that Mrs. or Miss DUDLEY, as the case may be, did not succeed in her attempt, as a certain amount of morbid enthusiasm might have been aroused on behalf of her victim as a martyr to his unholy cause. As it is, we need hardly fear that any enthusiasm will be aroused, for DONOVAN displayed throughout the incident a cowardice and loss of presence of mind which must somewhat have shaken the belief in him which is felt by the servant-maids who form so large a proportion of the contributors to his dynamite fund. As to his would-be assassin, it is difficult at present to form any decided opinion. Probably the most correct of the many versions of her history and her motives which are in circulation is that her mind has suffered from a long series of epileptic fits. We do not think that she is a genuine successor of CHARLOTTE CORDAY, though many of the outward circumstances of her attempt on DONOVAN'S life lend themselves to the obvious parallel. It is needless to do more than note the absurdity of the charge which her intended victim brings against the British Government of having plotted his assassination. All that it shows is, that the man who brings it judges others by himself.

Meanwhile his emissaries in England are gradually, but we hope surely, being tracked out. The arrest of the man CUNNINGHAM at the Tower is bearing fruit, and though at first it seemed that the case against him was likely to be weak, there has since been collected a mass of evidence which more than justifies the action of the authorities. One lesson taught by his arrest was the advantage of the military discipline which enabled the Tower gates to be closed at the moment of the explosion, thus preventing his escape. In the other explosions which have occurred the anxiety generally shown has been to get everybody out of the place; but it is obviously most important that all near the spot at the time should be called upon to give an account of themselves. With a view to giving effect to this obvious safeguard, we learn that the Judges have suggested that the attendants at the Royal Courts of Justice—which are announced as marked out as the special prey of the dynamiter—should be supplied with whistles to enable them to communicate with each other, and on an emergency to have the gates at once closed. It will hardly be believed, but we have good authority for stating it as a fact, that the Treasury authorities, when this suggestion was communicated to them by the official charged with the care of the Law Courts, replied that there were no funds available out of which whistles could be provided!

Mr. PARNELL'S attitude in connection with these outrages is worthy of notice. Not a word of disapproval comes from him, and those who have been most anxious to dissociate the movement of which he has the control from any connection with the dynamiters must be somewhat discouraged by his obstinate silence. In the present state of affairs it is not unjust to interpret his absence of disapproval into a tacit approval of the crimes committed in the name of Irish liberty. He does not go so far as the *United Irishman*, which attributes their crimes to the direct instigation of the English Government, anxious to find a pretext for refusing to Ireland her just rights of Kilkenny-catdom. But his silence is of ominous significance, and contrasts with the outspoken utterances of some of those who, like the Marchioness of QUEENSBERRY, have not hesitated to avow their abhorence of such illegitimate means of attaining to what they believe to be a legitimate end. It is not a little significant how the *Moniteur de Rome*, the POPE'S own organ, after having more than justified Mr. PARNELL'S silence, has apparently come round with some hesitation to the opinion that Christian ministers ought to dissociate themselves from criminal conspirators. This change of view has, we believe, been brought about by the direct remonstrances of not a few leading English Roman Catholics addressed to Cardinal JACOBINI.

Mr. GOSCHEN'S speeches must be regarded as the most important of the extra-Parliamentary utterances of the week, and they could not have afforded very pleasant reading to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and his clique. The position which the speaker occupies is a somewhat remarkable one, but there is nothing in his speeches which precludes the hope that he will find his final resting-place in that one of the political camps for which he is really the best suited. It is mere accident which has made him a Liberal rather than a Conservative, and we cannot doubt but that if he had to choose between Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, he would cast in his lot with the latter. The Radical orchid is evidently not his favourite flower, though the Sweet William still has charms for him. It is a significant sign of the times that the *Pall Mall Gazette* has ranked itself decidedly on Mr. GOSCHEN'S side in the contest between his views and those of the Jacobin inventor of the Caucus. The carefully compiled synopsis of the views of the leading provincial newspapers which is given by that journal is very interesting, and shows a decided preponderance of anti-Chamberlainites. Still more satisfactory to all lovers of their country was the speech of the right honourable gentleman on foreign and colonial affairs, which must be a bitter pill to swallow for the Liberals who are still very pardonably anxious to claim the speaker as one of themselves. It would not be difficult to extract from it a telling indictment against the miserable policy, if we may dignify it by that name, of the present Government, which has resulted in the alienation of our own colonies and the triumph of our foreign rivals.

We commented last week on Bishop TEMPLE'S translation to the See of London, and were with some regret compelled to enter our protest against the general chorus of satisfaction with which it was received. To what we have said we must, however, adhere without any hesitation or doubt, and we must decline to join some of our contemporaries in stultifying the protest which we made at the time of his original appointment. It is, however, the nomination of his successor in that See, and the nomination of Dr. KING to fill the seat of St. Chad, to which we must rather turn as part of the history of the week. The appointment of two new Bishops is too important to be passed over *sub silentio*, and we trust that they may each in their different spheres render good service both to Church and State. We may be pardoned if we regard Dr. KING as the better appointment of the two. It would, indeed, have been difficult to suggest a better successor to the much-loved and much-respected Prelate, the condition of whose health is watched with such anxious sympathy. It is true that the gain of Lincoln is the loss of Oxford, and the good which Dr. KING has done among the undergraduates, not only in the great House with which he has been more immediately connected, but in the University at large, makes us feel that his loss to Oxford will be difficult to supply. He will carry with him into his new sphere of labour the good wishes and the hearty prayers of those who have known him and loved him—this is perhaps tautological—at Oxford. He will also, we cannot doubt, in that new sphere of labour, find ample room for the display of the many high qualities which have won for him that love. Of Dr. BICKERSTETH we cannot speak with the same confidence. He has not had the same opportunity of showing the stuff of what he is made, for Hampstead is not Oxford, neither is the work of a parish priest—we ought, perhaps, in deference to his feelings to say a parish minister—as good a test of the fitness for his new post as that of a Divinity Professor. But if it were necessary to balance the appointment of a decided High Churchman by the appointment of a decided Low Churchman, we may feel grateful that the choice of the Crown should have fallen on a man who, for an Evangelical, is moderate, judicious, and well-instructed. It was at first thought that the same confusion of names to which an elder BICKERSTETH was indebted for the See of Ripon had again occurred, and that it was really the late Prolocutor of Convocation, not the recently appointed Dean of Gloucester, who had been recommended to the Chapter of Exeter. There seems, however, reason to believe that the nomination of Dr. BICKERSTETH to fill the Episcopal throne once occupied by HENRY of Exeter, though it may be a mistake in itself, is not, as was at first supposed, merely a confusion between two Deans of the same name. We trust that his nomination may be regarded as a sufficient concession to the Evangelicals, and that of the new Bishop of LONDON as a sufficient concession to the Broad Church, so that when Salisbury is vacant, as it soon will be, the Bishop selected for that See will be of the type of Dr. KING rather than of the type either of Dr. TEMPLE or of Dr. BICKERSTETH.

The Mission for West London commences to-morrow, and is to continue till Tuesday in the following week, the day before Ash Wednesday. While we cordially and sincerely trust that it may be abundantly blessed to the edification of the Church, it would be uncandid to conceal the opinion that an effort of this kind is beset with certain special dangers against which we trust that the clergy are duly on their guard. It is, perhaps, only natural that earnest Missioners who witness all around them the terrible results of vice and irreligion should think almost any means justifiable in carrying on the warfare against them. We can only express a hope, however, that they will not permit their zeal to outrun their discretion, and that while doing the Church's work they will recognise the duty of doing it in the Church's own way.

The death of Sir ROBERT PHILLIMORE is not an event which should pass unnoticed by English Churchmen. He was among the last, if not the very last, of our ecclesiastical lawyers who had really studied that by no means unimportant branch of our jurisprudence. He has a claim to be remembered as having adjudicated on a great number of cases of very great importance, and though we have been reminded that "his judgments were by no means uni-"formly approved by the Judicial Com-"mittee," it by no means follows that the Judicial Committee was right and that he was wrong. His judgments were not dictated by expediency, but were an enunciation of the Law of the Church as interpreted by a sound lawyer who had been trained to the study of such questions. If, indeed, he were wrong, which we by no means admit, it is better to have been wrong with PHILLIMORE than to have been right with WESTBURY. We do not maintain that Sir ROBERT was a great man, but he was certainly a good man, and the genial kindliness of his disposition, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanour, made him generally popular. Educated, like so many distinguished men, at Westminster and Christ Church, he never lost his love for the scenes of his early education. The great school under the shadow of the Abbey was the special object of his devotion; and never was there anything connected with the interests of that school which did not receive his careful attention. At the gatherings of "Old West-"minsters" he was rarely absent; and where they congregate his name will be long a household word.

KHARTOUM.

No words can do justice to the feelings with which the whole nation has received the tragic tidings of the fall of Khartoum. Of GORDON'S gallant endurance through all the weary months of waiting for aid that never came, what can be said? There is no tale of heroic self-sacrifice in all the world's history more noble or more touching, and his name will live in the undying love and gratitude of Englishmen for all time. Neither the exact circumstances which brought about the fall of Khartoum, nor the fate that has overtaken GORDON himself, are yet known. But if it be the case that his very last act was to send steamers from Khartoum to meet the British relieving force at Metammeh, and that by so doing he abandoned the last chance of securing his own safety, such an incident would form an appropriate finish to a career of absolute unselfishness. It is a bitter thought for Englishmen that all GORDON'S magnificent devotion, and all the deeds of daring and the indomitable valour of British soldiers, and all the noble blood that has been spilt—that all has been in vain. It was hard to make these sacrifices, even if they had been crowned with success. But to have made them and to have failed in securing the object for which they were made—the thought of this is indeed a grievous blow.

And yet we must say, too, that if there is one feeling that predominates even over the profound grief with which the country has received these ill tidings, it is a sentiment of indignant shame at the causes that have led to this disaster. Our brave Army and its gallant commanders have fulfilled all, and much more than all, that was expected of them. They have done their duty. It is the Government who are alone responsible for what has now occurred. Certainly, at a time of national calamity, the generous efforts of all should be directed to strengthening the hands of those to whom, whether for good or evil, has been entrusted the duty and responsibility of upholding the honour and welfare of the Empire. Recrimination at such a moment is, in itself, earnestly to be deprecated, because it is inopportune. The proper hour will, as we know, arrive in due course when the English people will know how to call to account the politicians whose criminal folly is solely answerable for the evils that have befallen us. But, unfortunately, the situation will not, in the present instance, permit us to leave out of sight, even for a time, the past misconduct of Mr. GLADSTONE'S Administration; and for this reason—that the fall of Khartoum is the direct result, not of an isolated mistake or miscalculation, but of their whole policy. The one urgent necessity at this moment is an entire and thorough reversal of their methods. It does not serve them in the least to urge that Khartoum has fallen by treachery. The probability of treachery was always a leading factor in the situation at Khartoum, and the only wonder is that GORDON successfully kept his enemies at bay as long as he did. Nor can Ministers plead that it was impossible to despatch the relief expedition at an earlier period. It is now well known that Lord WOLSELEY himself urged that it should be sent last April. The matter is, in fact, beyond argument. To nothing but the procrastination of the Ministry can the blame of our present position be attributed—the same fatal error that was already responsible for all the blood shed in Egypt for the last three years. But this procrastination is itself the fruit and outcome of the whole Radical policy abroad—a policy from which neither advice, nor warning, nor experience, nor public opinion throughout the civilised world, has hitherto been able to wean them. At a crisis like the present, therefore, we must perforce—whatever our inclinations to the contrary may be—direct attention to the true source of the national disasters. The whole Ministerial policy—it is that, and nothing less than that, which must be changed; and either Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues must themselves change it, or the country must insist on their making room for those who will. It is, indeed, well to strengthen the hands of the Government at such a time, but not to strengthen them in wrong-doing. The fall of Khartoum is an event fraught with consequences of an importance even more serious and far-reaching than the immediate result in Egypt and the Soudan. Such an event cannot fail to make itself felt throughout the Mahommedan world, and what *that* means for India it is needless now to particularise.

To-day, however, the one matter upon which the attention of the country is concentrated is the military situation of the moment. Whatever is best to be done under the wholly altered conditions of the campaign Lord WOLSELEY may be trusted to do. At the same time it is impossible for us to disguise from ourselves the gravity of his position, or the fact that the issue is now whether our brave troops can be saved from disaster. The hordes of the MAHDI formerly engaged in besieging Khartoum are now free to advance towards Gubat. Will Lord WOLSELEY withdraw his forces from Gubat, Gakdul, and Abu Klea, order General EARLE'S division to retrace its steps to Korti, and concentrate his whole army either there or at Debbeh? The great objection to this course is that our retreat would immensely encourage the enemy, who also might not improbably endeavour in great force to prevent its execution. More probably Lord WOLSELEY will prefer to advance and

concentrate his army at Gubat, while General Earle presses on to Abu Hamad, where he might be reinforced from Korosko and Souakim, and might then advance to capture Berber. The difficulty of keeping up communications between Lord Wolseley and General Earle would nevertheless be enormous, and this would be a serious obstacle to their effective co-operation and final junction. Nor do we at present know what means of supply Lord Wolseley would find at Gubat. The route from Souakim to Berber must now, after all, be opened, as it ought to have been a year ago. It is clear that the most energetic measures must at once be taken, at all hazards and regardless of cost, to send a powerful expedition from Souakim to Berber. Whatever sacrifice may be necessary, the country will cheerfully endure it. Wolseley must be relieved, and Gordon rescued or avenged.

THE BITER BIT.

Jeremiah Donovan has not died of his wounds; on the contrary, he has been discharged from the hospital as being considered entirely out of danger. We had no desire that he should die. It is better that he should have a chance of thinking over and repenting of the wickedness of his cruel plots for the wholesale murder of innocent men, women, and children; although it is impossible not to wish that the salutary lesson that this ruffian has received could have been enforced a little more emphatically. His evident terror of death might have exercised a very beneficial influence upon him if his life had ever been really in peril. However, Jeremiah Donovan has experienced a great fright—a fact which is none the less evident for all his swaggering and bluster. If he has not learnt to feel for the miseries he has been so willing to inflict on others, his experience will probably act as something of a deterrent for the future both on himself and his confederates. Such an exhibition of arrant and contemptible cowardice as this assassination-monger has made of himself will not be lost upon public opinion in America. The shooting of Donovan and certain other recent events that have occurred across the Atlantic will have one other good effect—that of enlisting popular sympathy in the United States in favour of the proposed legislation for the suppression of the Dynamite Conspiracy.

Meanwhile there are other persons who will, we sincerely trust, take to heart the warnings which the fate of Donovan is calculated to convey. The attempt upon the life of this scoundrel curiously illustrates the truth of what we ventured to put rather plainly last week. Where the regular laws of a country fail to protect that which it is the first business of a Government to protect—namely, the lives and the property of its subjects—another law is inevitably appealed to: the *lex talionis*. Protection of their persons and their goods is a matter which all men hold to be of prime necessity; and that protection they will insist upon having, either by one means or another. And of this we may be sure also: that the means adopted will not be rigidly confined to what are called strictly defensive measures; that is to say, those whose security is menaced might think the end they have in view best attained by preventive action. The attack upon Jeremiah Donovan is precisely a case in point. His assailant appears to have been determined, not so much to punish him for his past misdeeds, as to place it out of his power to carry out his reckless designs, in the execution of which, as he frankly admitted, he did not care if even women and children were to be the sufferers. And there is not the least reason to suppose that the feeling which prompted Miss Dudley's attack on Donovan would not have its counterpart in this country under certain not very improbable circumstances. If it were once to be generally believed that dynamite outrages and assassinations were secretly connived at by a knot of politicians who, whilst avoiding any overt acts of sympathy with, yet took care not to dissociate themselves from, the actual perpetrators, it is not difficult to imagine that a very serious state of things might arise. These are considerations which, we feel sure, it would be prudent for those whom it most nearly concerns not to overlook. It is impossible to ignore the undoubted current of public opinion on this subject. That these outrages will be stopped we have no manner of doubt; that they will be suppressed by regular lawful means is not to be doubted either; but that does not in the least degree affect the truth of what we have urged above.

Such a deed as that of Miss Dudley is really, of course, indefensible in any civilised community, whose very organisation presupposes that the individual citizen has parted with the right of exercising the *lex talionis*, which is vested entirely in the State. No claims to have been actuated by the best intentions can for one moment be admitted in justification of an act which violates the sole right of the State to deal with criminal offences. At the same time, when the matter is viewed from a moral standpoint, it is impossible not to recognise in the conduct of Miss Dudley an inspiring motive which does much to palliate, or even to excuse, her offence. Her object clearly seems to have been the strictly humane one of saving the lives of innocent people from the machinations of the monster who threatened them; and the moral of the whole incident lies exactly in the fact that the view taken by Miss Dudley is one which, under similar conditions, would almost certainly be reproduced among ourselves.

Many of our readers will be glad to learn that the Rev. Dr. Hayman, Honorary Canon of Carlisle, and late Head Master of Rugby, will deliver two series of addresses in connection with the West London Mission to be held next week, on "Phases of Doubt and Difficulties of Belief." One series will be given at St. Mark's, North Audley-street, every day at noon; the other at St. Andrew's, Wells-street, daily at 6 p.m.; except that on Wednesday, the 11th, the address, which will be of a popular character, will be given at 8.45 p.m., while on Sunday, the 15th, the sermon will follow the usual evening service at 7 p.m. The subjects of the addresses will include "Difficulties in the Bible and Popular Fallacies concerning them;" "Difficulties arising from the Fixed Order of Nature, especially its Destructive Agencies;" "Causation, Design, Evolution, and Natural Selection;" "Freedom of Will;" "The Agnostic Position;" "Jesus and the Resurrection;" and "Moral and Social Results of Christianity."

An old and valued correspondent writes to us:—"Mr. Gladstone has copied Lord Beaconsfield in turning a new Dean into a Bishop. This is a great mistake. If a man has been properly appraised at a deanery, it is obviously wrong to promote him till he has done something more. The Premier condemns his own judgment, or else yields to party pressure."

With reference to our remarks last week on the appointment of Dr. Temple to the See of London, a correspondent states that ever since Dr. Temple's consecration the volume of *Essays and Reviews* has been, at the Bishop's request, withdrawn from circulation. We have not had an opportunity of verifying this assertion; but, accepting it as accurate, we are unable to perceive that it in the least degree affects the truth of what we wrote last week. The course taken by the Bishop in respect to the volume in question proves one thing very distinctly—that he is a man possessed of tact and good feeling, and that he was anxious to remove what had proved to be a cause of pain to others; but not that he in any way disowns either *Essays and Reviews* as a whole, or his own essay in particular. We may depend upon it that if this had been his meaning, Dr. Temple is too straightforward a man to leave his intention to be merely inferred. He would have stated it plainly.

Reviews.

GEORGE ELIOT.*

[FIRST NOTICE.]

The object which Mr. Cross has set before him in *George Eliot's Life* has been to throw light on another side of the nature of his gifted wife than that intellectual side on which, as he thinks, sufficient light has been already thrown by her own works. It is on the side of her affections, not on the side of her intellect, that he wishes to depict her in a book which has been composed in the main by an arrangement of her letters and her writings, allowing her to speak for herself. The method is not altogether a new one, and, to quote but one instance, it has been adopted with remarkable success in the *Life of Lord Campbell* recently published by his daughter. There is no doubt a wide difference between the Whig Chancellor and the gifted novelist; and we do not say that to the general reader the earlier would be as interesting as the later work; but there is sufficient similarity in the treatment which each has met with from the biographer to justify the comparison between them. Another and yet more obvious comparison is between Mr. Froude's *Carlyle* and Mr. Cross's *George Eliot;* but a very different view of the duty of a biographer has been adopted in each case. Mr. Froude has given us Carlyle painted through the medium of the biographer's own view, and with all the darker colours of the picture persistently insisted upon. Mr. Cross has given us George Eliot painted through the medium of her own view of herself, and with all the darker colours carefully eliminated. It may be open to question which method is most likely to bring out the truth; but it may safely be assumed that neither was Carlyle so black, nor George Eliot so rose-coloured, as they have been represented. Indeed, the absence of any shadow seriously interferes with the pictorial effect of the book now before us; and when Mr. Cross acknowledges that he has left out everything which he thought his wife would have wished to be omitted, he sounds the death-knell of his work as an authentic portraiture of its heroine. Doubtless he has been induced to adopt this course by the strong language which she was wont to use as to the posthumous revelations, the scrapings of the wastepaper-basket, which form the main feature in so many literary biographies. From among her utterances condemnatory of such a treatment of the dead, we may select the following criticism on our national habits in the way of literary biography, called forth by the *Memoirs of Charles Dickens*:—

> Is it not odious that, as soon as a man is dead, his desk is raked and every insignificant memorandum, which he never meant for the public, is printed for the gossiping amusement of people too idle to re-read his books? "He gave the people of his best. His worst he kept; his best he gave:" but there is a certain set, not a small one, who are titillated by the worst and indifferent to the best. I think this fashion is a disgrace to us all. It is something like the uncovering of the dead Byron's club-foot.

No such uncovering takes place in the volume before us. If there be any skeleton in George Eliot's cupboard, and the existence of such a skeleton is but too well known, it is carefully locked up, and we are only just allowed the most casual peep through the keyhole. This is certainly a fault on the right side: and much credit is due to Mr. Cross for his share in the work. "Autobiography," as George Eliot says in another place, "at least saves a man or woman that the world is curious about from the publication of a string of mistakes called 'Memoirs.'" Carrying out this view, Mr. Cross, in acting as his wife's biographer, has done all that he can to give an autobiographical aspect to his book. His endeavour has been to arrange the letters and journals into a connected whole with the least possible interruption in the shape of his own comments. Had he not suppressed many passages in the course of this arrangement, we should no doubt have had a more graphic picture of the real George Eliot—at least, as far as she was visible to herself. But as a well-known American writer has shrewdly pointed out, when A meets B there are really six different persons brought together—the real A, A's idea of A, and B's idea of A, on the one hand; the real B, B's idea of B, and A's idea of B, on the other hand. It is obvious that by the method which Mr. Cross has adopted, we get only, at the utmost, A's idea of A; or, having regard to the omissions and excisions, the most favourable aspect of A's idea of A. Still, in the case of a writer of George Eliot's peculiar gifts, there is a greater value to be attached to such a method of portraiture than if it were to be applied to a personage less gifted with analytic power.

An introductory chapter, derived mainly from information furnished by her brother, Mr. Isaac Evans, and dealing with the time when her own letters were not available for the purposes of the biographer, is the main contribution of Mr. Cross himself to this biography. After that he is content to let his wife speak for herself, and has confined his share of the work to the elucidation and arrangement of her journals and correspondence. Not a little of the latter has been supplied by her publishers, Messrs. W. Blackwood and Sons; and her letters to Mr. John Blackwood are among the most interesting contributions to the study of her literary career. His generosity she accepted with thanks, "not formal but heartfelt;" while his appreciative criticisms were a great encouragement to her, and she gratefully acknowledged them, saying on one occasion, "I am sure if I have written well, your pleasant letters have had something to do with it."

Mary Ann Evans, in recording her birth we ought, perhaps, to describe her by her own name, rather than by that adopted name which will go down to posterity—adopted, by the way, because George was Mr. Lewes' Christian name, and Eliot was a good mouthfilling, easily-pronounced word"—was born on the 22nd November, 1819, which, as her biographer points out, was removed from the beginning of the French Revolution by just the same period as separates a child born in 1884 from the beginning of the Crimean War. Her father was a remarkable man, and the leading traits of his character are reproduced in "Adam Bede" and "Caleb Garth." A yet more vivid picture of him is supplied in *Theophrastus Such*, which is a vast storehouse of autobiographical material. From the rest of her works much characteristic information about herself is to be gathered; but it is probable that *Theophrastus Such* yet more accurately reproduces her early impressions. The Warwickshire country about Griff, which was her early home, is not in itself exhilarating, but she has "transfigured these scenes, "dear to Midland souls, into many an idyllic picture "known to those who know her books," and the passage from *Felix Holt*, which Mr. Cross quotes, admirably paints it from her point of view. Of her own mother little is said; but her father's second wife is described as having a considerable dash of Mrs. Poyser in her, and her family is pronounced without hesitation to be the prototype of the Dodsons in the *Mill on the Floss*. There is a graphic picture of the "old-fashioned child, already "living in a world of her own imagination, impressible to her finger-tips, and willing to give her "views on any subject;" who, like her own Maggie Tulliver, had her rebellious hair all over her eyes. Her appetite for reading works of fiction made itself known very early in her little life, and the anecdote quoted from Miss Simcox in relation to *Waverley* is very interesting, especially when read in connection with the position in the world of fiction to which the small heroine of it subsequently attained.

But we must not linger over the introductory chapter which forms, as it were, the vestibule to the main building, in which we find George Eliot painted almost exclusively by herself. From this chapter onward we have a selection from her letters, very much curtailed in accordance with the rigid limitations which the biographer has laid down for his own guidance, but yet sufficient to give a striking evidence of the best side of the writer's character. That it is altogether a faithful picture, we may take the liberty to doubt. Indeed, it could hardly be so, having regard to those limitations; and, in his anxiety to avoid Mr. Froude's errors, Mr. Cross seems to have fallen into the contrary extreme. The reflection is more than once forced upon us, whether a husband is the proper person to write his wife's biography, and yet further whether a second husband can be so. It would, no doubt, have severely taxed the most dispassionate biographer to tell with truth the story of the relations between George Henry Lewes and Mary Ann Evans. To tell that story with anything like truth is obviously impossible for the successor of the one and the husband of the other. Those relations are the great blot on her life story, and it is not possible to wipe out that blot by a sneering reference to "the Pharisees" who disapproved it. Her first introduction to the man who was to exercise so great an influence over her life was in Jeff's shop, and she then described him as "a sort of miniature Mirabeau in appearance." But it was to Mr. Herbert Spencer that she was indebted for her more intimate acquaintance with him and its result, whether for good or not. It is curious to trace the gradual progress of their intimacy. In March, 1853, she says, "He has quite won my liking in spite of myself," and, in the following month, she thus describes him:—

> Mr. Lewes especially is kind and attentive, and has quite won my regard, after having had a good deal of my vituperation. Like a few other people in the world, he is much better than he seems. A man of heart and conscience wearing a mask of flippancy.

In July of the following year the fatal step was taken, and, as the biographer says, it is as well that she should speak for herself in relation to it. The following letter, written to her old friend and correspondent Mrs. Bray, some fourteen months later, must be regarded as her *Apologia pro vitâ suâ*:—

> If there is any one action or relation of my life which is and always has been profoundly serious, it is my relation to Mr. Lewes. It is, however, natural enough that you should mistake me in many ways, for not only are you unacquainted with Mr. Lewes's real character and the course of his actions, but also it is several years now since you and I were much together, and it is possible that the modifications my mind has undergone may be quite in the opposite direction of what you imagine. No one can be better aware than yourself that it is possible for two people to hold different opinions on momentous subjects with equal sincerity, and an equally earnest conviction that their respective opinions are alone the truly moral ones. If we differ on the subject of the marriage laws, I at least can believe of you that you cleave to what you believe to be good; and I don't know of anything in the nature of your views that should prevent you from believing the same of me. *How far* we differ, I think we neither of us know, for I am ignorant of your precise views; and apparently you attribute to me both feelings and opinions which are not mine. We cannot set each other quite right in this matter in letters, but one thing I can tell you in a few words. Light and easily broken ties are what I neither desire theoretically nor could live for practically. Women who are satisfied with such ties do *not* act as I have done. That any unworldly, unsuperstitious person who is sufficiently acquainted with the realities of life can pronounce my relation to Mr. Lewes immoral, I can only understand by remembering how subtle and complex are the influences that mould opinion. But I *do* remember this; and I indulge in no arrogant or uncharitable thoughts about those who condemn us, even though we might have expected a somewhat different verdict. From the majority of persons, of course, we never looked for anything but condemnation. We are leading no life of self-indulgence, except indeed that, being happy in each other, we find everything easy. We are working hard to provide for others better than we provide for ourselves, and to fulfil every responsibility that lies upon us. Levity and pride would not be a sufficient basis for that. Pardon me if, in vindicating myself from some unjust conclusions, I seem too cold and self-asserting. I should not care to vindicate myself if I did not love you and desire to relieve you of the pain which you say these conclusions have given you. Whatever I may have misinterpreted before, I do not misinterpret your letter this morning, but read it in nothing else than love and kindness towards me, to which my heart fully answers yes. I should like never to write about myself again; it is not healthy to dwell on one's own feelings and conduct, but only to try and live more faithfully and lovingly every fresh day. I think not one of the endless words and deeds of kindness and forbearance you have ever shown me has vanished from my memory. I recall them often, and feel, as about everything else in the past, how deficient I have been in almost every relation of my life. But that deficiency is irrevocable, and I can find no strength or comfort except in "pressing forward towards the thing that are before," and trying to make the present better than the past. But if we should never be very near each other again, dear Cara, do bear this faith in your mind, that I was not insensible or ungrateful to all your goodness, and that I am one amongst the many for whom you have not lived in vain. I am very busy just now, and have been obliged to write hastily. Bear this in mind, and believe that no meaning is mine which contradicts my assurance that I am your affectionate and earnest friend.

We do not propose to dwell further on the more painful aspects of this melancholy episode, but to confine ourselves to the literary influence of George Lewes on Mary Ann Evans. We think that, on the whole, it has been very much overrated, and that he is not so much responsible as is generally supposed for the undue amount of philosophical digression which impedes the progress of her novels. She had evidently a taste that way before she fell under his influence, and it grew upon her with her advancing years, till metaphysics seriously interfered with imagination. It was not till after their visit to Germany—the account of which contains much interesting matter, on which we have not time to dwell—that he realised her great powers as a writer, and, strange to say, it was an article on Dr. Cumming which opened his eyes. But to return to the earlier stages of their inter-

* *George Eliot's Life, as related in her Letters and Journals.* Arranged and edited by J. W. Cross. In Three Vols.—Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1885.

course. Their mutual connection with the *Westminster* added to their opportunities for acquaintance. During her management of that *Review* George Eliot was brought into intimacy with many other literary celebrities. She tells a capital story of Carlyle which Miss Frederica Bremer got from Emerson :—

Carlyle was very angry with him for not believing in a devil, and to convert him took him amongst all the horrors of London—the gin-shops, &c.—and finally to the House of Commons, plying him at every turn with the question, "Do you believe in a devil now?"

Two other literary celebrities are well hit off :—

I had a pleasant talk with Greg and Forster. Greg was "much pleased to make my acquaintance;" Forster, on the whole, appeared to think that people should be glad to make his acquaintance. Greg is a short man, but his brain is large, the anterior lobe very fine, and a moral region to correspond; black wiry curly hair, and every indication of a first-rate temperament.

We should notice here that, while she was well satisfied with the huge anterior lobe of Professor Owen, she was evidently disappointed in the "anterior lobe" of a yet more distinguished man, Charles Dickens, and she pronounced him to have "no benevolence in the face, and I think little in the head." This opinion, formed at a first interview, she subsequently modified.

But we feel that we are lingering too long on the threshold of that literary life of George Eliot's which constitutes her greatest claim on the attention of all students of English literature. It is not the translator of Kant, the editor of the *Westminster*, or the industrious reviewer, of whom the reader of the biography wishes to hear. It is the great novelist, to whom we are indebted for so much admirable though often painful fiction, that is the main object of interest. We purposely forbear, at this period, to dwell on the hopelessness and the absence of belief disfiguring that fiction which have been so well exposed by Mr. Mallock in his recent criticism. But there is a sentence in one of her letters before she took to novel-writing which well illustrates the position taken up by the critic :—

"Heaven help us!" said the old religion; "the new one, from its very lack of that faith, will teach us all the more to help one another."

This is George Eliot's confession of faith, if faith it may be called, and is the text of all those sermons on the gospel of humanity which she so assiduously preached. We have no desire to enlarge upon this painful feature in the interesting volumes before us, to which we hope shortly to return. In the meantime we must conclude for the present with the striking passage from her journal which tells how she first took to novel-writing :—

September 1856 made a new era in my life, for it was then I began to write fiction. It had always been a vague dream of mine that some time or other I might write a novel; and my shadowy conception of what the novel was to be varied, of course, from one epoch of my life to another. But I never went further towards the actual writing of the novel than an introductory chapter describing a Staffordshire village and the life of the neighbouring farmhouses; and as the years passed on I lost any hope that I should ever be able to write a novel, just as I desponded about everything else in my future life. I always thought I was deficient in dramatic power, both of construction and dialogue, but I felt I should be at my ease in the descriptive parts of a novel. My "introductory chapter" was pure description, though there were good materials in it for dramatic presentation. It happened to be among the papers I had with me in Germany, and one evening at Berlin something led me to read it to George. He was struck with it as a bit of concrete description, and it suggested to him the possibility of my being able to write a novel, though he distrusted—indeed disbelieved in—my possession of any dramatic power. Still, he began to think that I might as well try some time what I could do in fiction; and by-and-by, when we came back to England, and I had greater success than he ever expected in other kinds of writing, his impression that it was worth while to see how far my mental power would go, towards the production of a novel, was strengthened. He began to say very positively, "You must try and write a story," and when we were at Tenby he urged me to begin at once. I deferred it, however, after my usual fashion, with work that does not present itself as an absolute duty. But one morning as I was thinking what should be the subject of my first story, my thoughts merged themselves into a dreamy doze, and I imagined myself writing a story, of which the title was *The Sad Fortunes of the Reverend Amos Barton*. I was soon wide awake again and told G. He said, "Oh, what a capital title!" and from that time I had settled in my mind that this should be my first story. George used to say, "It may be a failure—it may be that you are unable to write fiction. Or perhaps it may be just good enough to warrant your trying again." Again, "You may write a *chef d'œuvre* at once—there's no telling." But his prevalent impression was, that though I could hardly write a *poor* novel, my effort would want the highest quality of fiction—dramatic presentation. He used to say, "You have wit, description, and philosophy—those go a good way towards the production of a novel. It is worth while for you to try the experiment."

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

The *Edinburgh Review* apparently feels in honour bound to resuscitate the strife once waged so hotly between Mr. Croker and its own champion, Lord Macaulay, by making the publication of "The Croker Papers" the occasion of an onslaught upon Mr. Croker's memory. It is perhaps no very difficult to trace the hand that has penned this criticism, and opinions will differ as to whether it does not exceed the fair limits of what the dignity of a great literary organ and the reputation of—shall we say a distinguished relative?—might be supposed to require for their vindication. When the Reviewer complains that the editor of the "Papers" has depicted only one side of Mr. Croker's character, and compares it to the profile portrait drawn by a traveller of an Australian savage, which the friends of the latter abused as representing only one side of his face, he invites the retort that the two criticisms are about on a level. We notice that the Reviewer calmly takes for granted throughout that Mr. Croker was the original of Lord Beaconsfield's Rigby, ignoring the fact that it is extremely doubtful whether Rigby was really meant for Mr. Croker. Even if Mr. Croker were in Lord Beaconsfield's mind when he wrote *Coningsby*, it might well have been the case that Rigby was intended to be, not a portrait, but a caricature. After all the Whig organ's not very generous efforts to depreciate Mr. Croker's worth, it is surprising how little it has been able to fasten upon to his disparagement. What it chooses to call Mr. Croker's "flattery" of Lord Hertford amounts, on its own showing, to nothing more than a certain old-world courtesy, such as to modern tastes may seem, perhaps, rather overdone and exaggerated. The assumption that Mr. Croker used to meet "without remonstrance" certain company at Lord Hertford's table, is entirely unwarranted. It is easy, too, to pour cheap ridicule on Mr. Croker's apprehensions as to the disastrous results of the Reform Act of 1832. The Reviewer may, however, be reminded that it still remains to be seen whether the event will finally justify the anticipations of Whig optimism. The same might be said of the exulting tone in which the *Edinburgh* speaks throughout of the triumph of the Free Trade movement, if it were not that its mischievous effects are already actually matter of experience. As to Lord Macaulay, we doubt if the explanations as to the spirit in which he wrote his review in the *Edinburgh* of Mr. Croker's *Boswell* will serve him much. With the narrow bigotry that distinguishes many so-called Liberals, Lord Macaulay entertained a fanatical hatred of people who happened to differ from his political views. Mr. Croker, it is here admitted, was viewed by Lord Macaulay with "contempt and loathing," and we are further informed that, "animated with "these feelings," he undertook to review Mr. Croker's chief literary work. Precisely so. He was anxious to review Croker's book because he hated him, and because he intended to vent his hatred by "smashing" the book, whether the book deserved it or not. *Habemus confitentem reum*. After this, what does it matter whether his insolent phrase about "dusting the varlet's "jacket" was penned before or after he had seen the book? As to Mr. Croker's treatment of that rank imposture, Lord Macaulay's *History of England*, it was amply justified. A more mischievous publication was never issued. Its attractive style and ostentatious pretensions to be based on authentic documents deceived many, and for at least a generation its author successfully palmed off as "history" what was really nothing more than a romance which sought to commend Liberal principles by the wholesale falsification of facts.

We observe with satisfaction that the literary representative of the Whigs entirely concurs with our own estimate of those provisions of the Redistribution of Seats Bill which deprive the City of London of half the representation it has hitherto enjoyed by immemorial right, and which treat Ireland with such extraordinary favour. The latter feature of the Bill the Reviewer styles "Quixotic." We think it deserves a less mild epithet. The Radical determination to give Ireland more than her just share of representation is the result of an infamous compact with the Party of Sedition, without whose help the Radical programme cannot be carried out in Great Britain. Does the country realise that while London with 22,000 electors, and comprising the greatest commercial interests in the world, is to have only two members, Dublin, with only 12,000, is to receive four? In other words, the ratio of representation is to be nearly four for Dublin to one for London. Again, as we have observed frequently before, why should a constituency like St. George's, Hanover-square, representing a vast amount of wealth and education, be represented by only one member for 89,000, while St. George's-in-the-East has also one member for only 47,000? The proposed metropolitan representation is full of similar anomalies; the general tendency of the new arrangement being to deprive property and intelligence of its share of power. The Reviewer discusses in detail the arguments for and against the subdivision of large constituencies into small ones with single seats. There is much force in the view that small constituencies are unfavourable fields for the operations of the Caucus, and that subdivision confers on minorities a fair share of representation, and avoids the evils of *scrutin de liste*. On the other hand, the writer passes over in silence the important consideration that a large town is a corporate entity, and that subdivision deprives it as such of representation. And we can by no means agree that the sending of what are called "local men" to Parliament will be of advantage to the country. We want men who think of national rather than merely local interests.

It is an instructive fact that, while its Tory rival is lamenting the inefficiency of the Navy, the *Edinburgh* devotes an article to pointing out shortcomings in the Army. The writer of the article on "The State of the British Army" holds a mid-position between those who, like the followers of Lord Wolseley and certain civilian officials of the War Department, think there is little cause for complaint, and the pessimists—the great bulk of regimental officers. He agrees with Sir Frederick Roberts and Sir Lintorn Simmons in the conviction that we do not get an adequate return for our military expenditure. Pointing out that in point of numbers our Army is still below its proper strength, and that in efficiency a large proportion of the men are unfit for soldiers' work as regards age, service, or physique, the Reviewer infers that these evils are due to the unpopularity of the Army. A further proof is that in 1883 alone, by desertion and in other ways, more than 8,000 men showed they were sick of the service; while if we include those discharged for misconduct, or who died or were invalided (because unfit for the service), the waste of men in that single year must be put at 10,000. During the same period there were besides always about 2,000 men in prison—the number of two battalions. To render the Army popular, sundry alterations in the terms of engagement are suggested; also improvements in the food; increased opportunities of rational recreation; the encouragement of gardening, and the establishment of clubs and workshops; the simplification of drills; the diminution of the demands made on recruits; and the appointment of ex-so'diers to Government situations—a point to which, we trust, the meeting held on Wednesday under Sir R. Loyd Lindsay's auspices has served to call public attention. The present system has, moreover, necessarily weakened *esprit de corps*, and the existing infantry organisation, with its division of a regiment into a home battalion, a foreign battalion, and a depôt, entails the greatest inconvenience, especially in the matter of filling up a battalion going abroad with volunteers from other regiments. The outcome of all this is that not two-thirds of the infantry men paid as soldiers are able to take part in a campaign. On the question of the age of recruits, the estab'ishment of separate boy battalions of lads between 16 and 19 would meet a great difficulty. At 19 the boy would be an accomplished and efficient soldier. To objections urged on the ground of increasing the Estimates, it is replied that a saving would be effected by enlisting only physically efficient men of good character, as also by improved organisation, and by certain other reforms. The abolition of regimental depôts is strongly advocated, and likewise the system of feeding the foreign from the home battalion, so that the autonomy of regiments may be restored. Lastly, it is contended that our present military establishment is inadequate to our needs, and that we are constantly endeavouring to carry on extensive military operations with a very small peace establishment.

An able paper on "Recent Discoveries in the "Roman Forum" endeavours to reconstruct descriptively the aspect of the Forum as it was in Cicero's day, and then goes on to survey successively the Pantheon, the Palatine, the ancient aqueducts, and the newly-discovered House of the Vestals. In the article on the "Secret Papers of the Second Empire" some food for reflection is afforded for those who hold to the maxim *vox populi vox Dei*. The scandals of French Cæsarism were the fruit of a system set up by and reposing on the sanction of universal suffrage. Another and more important essay of which the subject bears also on the history of the Revolution in France is that which reviews the remarkable "Correspondence of "Mallet du Pan." Mallet was a Swiss Republican by birth, and a French Royalist by conviction. Ten years' residence in Paris and a subsequent sojourn at Berne among Royalists gave him opportunities of personal acquaintance with many of the leading men of both sides, and of judging the phenomena he was in the midst of. Of these he availed himself with, as Carlyle says, rare sagacity; while his accuracy is fully attested by so competent an authority as M. Taine. His correspondence, dated from Berne, which was carried on with the British Government, as well as with the Emperor of Germany and other European Sovereigns, embraces the period of the Directory, from the end of 1794 to the beginning of 1798. His former influential position at Paris, as editor of the chief newspaper, the *Mercure*, helped to enable him to obtain his information from first-rate sources of all kinds.

The article on "The Migrations of Birds" is valuable, as summing up clearly and concisely the evidence on that subject which has accumulated rather plentifully in recent years; and an essay on "Spenser as a Philosophic Poet" and an article on "Private Bill Legislation" complete the number.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

We know of no book that we more sincerely desire to see widely adopted for Lenten use, especially by the clergy, than the volume of Father Coleridge's considerations of the Sacred Passion entitled *The Baptism of the King* (Burns and Oates). The object of the writer is explained to be not so much to comment on the direct narrative of the Passion as it is given in the Gospels, but rather to follow St. Paul in contemplating the causes, the significance, the effects, the Divine reasons of the great Sacrifice of the Cross, its results in time and eternity, and the place which it occupies in God's counsels. Like the Advent volume from the same hand, which we had occasion to notice recently, the present work contains sermons preached at various times during a series of several years. Of these discourses, all of them brief in form, but full of deep spiritual thoughts, there are no less than forty. We shall best indicate the scope of the book by a list of the subjects treated of, which we have for clearness' sake endeavoured to classify. In the first four considerations the Passion is contemplated successively as the desire of our Lord, as enjoined by His Father, as a testimony to the Truth, and as revealing the value to the Creator of the soul of man. The next seven, which may be grouped together, treat of the Passion in relation to sin, as working man's salvation, as repairing the fall of the Angels and of Adam, as atoning for personal sins and for sins caused in others, and as sanctifying the sufferings of life. Seven more meditations may be said to view the Passion in relation to the Last Things, as judging the world, as defeating Satan, as sanctifying death, as working penitence, as giving confidence in the Judgment and consolation in the next world, and as saving from Hell and opening Heaven. Another group of seven sections deals with the Passion as the summary of our Lord's Teaching and Life, as inculcating obedience and humility, meekness and patience, charity and liberality, justice and fortitude, and as attracting the love of men to a life of holiness. In the three following discourses the Passion is set forth as witnessing to God's character and attributes—first manifesting His Power, next His Wisdom, and then His Justice. Yet again is the Passion considered with reference to God's spiritual and temporal judgments, and then to His Mercy and Faithfulness. Another aspect of the subject exhibits the Church as dependent on the Passion. This point is amplified in the sermons on the Passion as the birth of the Church, as perpetuated in the Sacrifice of the Altar, as connected with all the seven Sacraments, and as the source of all grace. The joy of our Lord at the redemption of His Mother is considered next. Then follow three meditations on the Passion considered as the Glory of each Person of the Most Holy Trinity, and a final Epilogue in conclusion. We again cordially recommend this devout and beautiful book in full confidence that many of our readers will thank us for having done so.

We have nothing but praise for the excellent *Missioner's Hymnal* (Rivingtons), edited by so experienced a priest as the Rev. A. G. Jackson, Chaplain of the Farm School, Redhill. The hymns are selected with great judgment and discrimination, and, while full of hearty fervour, are free from the blemishes of taste as well as of doctrine which disfigure not a few of those commonly used for missions. The tunes have for the most part been revised by the efficient hands of Mr. G. Alston Sarvent, the organist of St. Michael's, Shoreditch. They are of a popular character, and have all been tested by experience. The contents include hymns of invitation to the Mission, on the Passion of Christ, of penitence, faith, hope, love, prayer, and thanksgiving; then eight hymns for children's services, and, lastly, two metrical litanies, a prose litany of the Passion for outdoor processions, the *Veni Creator*, the *Miserere*, and the *Te Deum*. Besides the large edition with tunes, smaller editions are also published as low in price as 1d.

The Bishop of Rochester's little book on *Parochial Missions* (S.P.C.K.) and Canon Hole's *What is a Mission?* (Griffith and Farran) are both full of sound and sensible counsel upon a subject on which the guidance of such competent advisers is much needed.

Correspondence.

THE APOCALYPSE.

To the Editor of the JOHN BULL.

Sir,—In a former letter I endeavoured to show that the idol shepherd mentioned by Zechariah in his eleventh chapter was the Antichrist—the Beast branded with the 666, because that was the proportion of his Jewish flock in all the land which he ruined. I hope now to prove that he is branded with the very same number because he spiritually ruins the very same proportion (two-thirds of a thousand) throughout Christendom, the Gentile portion of his flock. In the sixth seal, in Rev. vi., we read that the sun became black as sackcloth of hair. Now Christ is the light of the world, and the sun is his symbol. Under the spread of infidelity, which rejects the Gospel, the light may be utterly darkened.

But there are and will be faithful Christians who would rather die than deny Christ. His enemy determines to make the world Antichristian, and therefore by persecution "he wears them out;" and thus the moon, the faithful witness in heaven, is changed into blood, as we also read in the sixth seal. As regards the stars, chapter xii. tells us that the dragon's tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth—*i.e.*, 333 out of 1,000. But there still remain 667 stars. To make the Beast's victory complete over the Lamb, these stars must be made to fall or apostatise. Now, in the third trumpet, we read of a falling star of which the name is Wormwood. But Moses, in Deut. xxix. 18, had established wormwood as the symbol of apostasy. Evidently, in the third trumpet, St. John inteuds to make a falling star the symbol of apostasy in the Christian Church. Antichrist then, by his very position, is bound to drag down the 667. And in the sixth seal we find that the stars do fall in great abundance. It is the great "falling away" of the 2 Thess. ii. But there is one star of which the Lord says emphatically in this very book, "I am the bright and morning star"—*i.e.*, day's harbinger—the promise of the rising sun. Antichrist cannot make that star fall from God, any more than the devil could tempt Christ in the wilderness; he cannot reach that star or stifle its message, any more than Herod could put out the light of its type—the star in the East guiding the Wise Men. He must needs leave that Alpha—that Aleph—that One of a 1,000. Thus, 666 is his limit and his opprobrium every way The Resurrection is his defeat. He can kill the body, but he has no more that he can do. The gates of Hades shall not prevent the return of the faithful souls, for Christ is alive for evermore, and has the keys of Hades and of death.

There are several other points which cannot be treated here. Antichrist has a name, and that name has a number. But let it be observed that Rev. xiii. 18 does not connect the number 666 with the name. That connection has been generally assumed, and the assumption was fatal to a successful interpretation. Those of your readers who can unite reverence with curiosity may turn to p. 177 and following pages of a book called *Revelation Reconsidered*. In that book I have laboured to show that the Apocalypse is not bound to Nero or to the past, as if it were a mere Tacitus or Suetonius, but is principally a guide for a particular crisis yet future. A greater than Nero is there; one to whom the dragon will give his

power, his seat, and his great authority; in fact, "all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them." I am, Sir, yours truly,

North Pickenham. WM. EWING.

PAPERS FOR PENNY READINGS.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—Some years ago the clergy complained of the difficulty of procuring suitable *Readings* without vulgarity. I endeavoured to supply the want, and "The Ghost that Ran Away with the Organist" met with such an enthusiastic reception that I hope you will allow me to say (in addition to an advertisement in your columns) that I have now completed a set of *Six Readings*, which are extremely popular. As I am compelled to be my own publisher—and have been so of a long catalogue of works for thirty years—I have had very hard work, and not the remuneration I might have looked for in return; and, as the oldest of all the Church papers, I think you will not be behind your contemporaries in thus allowing me to make this brief communication in your correspondence column, and much oblige.

Yours faithfully,

T. LLOYD FOWLE, Mus.D., Ph.D., *et* M.A.

5, *St. Helen's-road, Hastings, Feb.* 4, 1885.

RESCUE WORK IN THE LONDON MISSION.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—Will you allow me to call the attention of your readers to an advertisement in another column from which it will be seen how inadequate has been the response to what has proved to have been the last public appeal put forward by the late Bishop of London.

Money is especially needed for that most trying and difficult work—the Rescue of the Fallen. Many devoted ladies are ready to help, but the providing of homes, both temporary and permanent, is costly.

Will any of your readers send donations to the Treasurer—the Rev. A. J. Ingram, 20, Finsbury-square, E.C.? I am, yours &c.,

WM. WALSHAM BEDFORD
(Bishop Suffragan).

MONEY MARKET.

Friday.

Consols closed at 99⅛ to 99⅜ for Money, and 99⅛ to 99⅜ for the Account.

The annual general meeting of the London and County Banking Company (Limited) took place on Thursday, W. H. Stone, Esq., presiding. The report which was presented stated that the net profit for the half-year ending Dec. 31 last, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £45,844 17s. for rebate on bills not due, amounted to £185,020 2s. 7d., which, added to £33,192 18s. 3d., the balance brought forward from last account, produced a total of £218,219 0s. 10d. The directors announced the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year, making the total dividend for the year 21 per cent. The dividend, £2 per share, free of income-tax, will be payable at the head office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, 16th February.

The twenty-first ordinary meeting of shareholders of the London and General Water Purifying Company (Limited) will be held on Friday next, at the Offices, 157, Strand, at 2 o'clock.

OXFORD, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

In a second article on this subject contributed to the *Pall Mall Gazette* Mr. Mackail says:—

"What sort of an education does Oxford give at the present day?

"The great mass of University men still come from the public schools. Much as these have themselves been altered in the last generation, the type of public schoolboy remains on the whole what it was. And so long as University education is in the main a continuation and completion of a public school education, so long it will have a guaranteed permanence. Nor, while spending three years at Oxford or Cambridge is regarded as the usual and proper thing for an English gentleman to do, will any administrative changes be likely to make the English gentleman other than he has always been. The charming description in the *Oxford Spectator* will remain true:—'Fastening most elegant ribbons upon hats of straw, and themselves reclining on soft beds in the stern, they will make merry, themselves and the person with the punt-pole, drinking their cider-cup, wearing flannels, singing the popular songs, enjoying one another's society, and not getting into debt beyond their means. . . . And thus keeping their terms in tranquillity and sound health, they will in all probability go down at the end of four years, and leaving, bequeath to their successors a life in which their own will be reproduced.' A large and increasing proportion, however, of the men who go to Oxford consists of the best brains of the middle classes. These do not go to Oxford as a matter of course, but because they hope that they may there acquire special advantages for success in life. Now, it must be frankly said to such that Oxford is a very expensive place, and that a great many men spend three or four years there that, so far as worldly success goes, would have been better spent in learning a profession. The commercial value of an Oxford degree is not great, except in the one profession of teaching, which is already overcrowded. If, however, one may venture to forecast the future, one may see in the rapid development of provincial colleges the true remedy for this. Colleges like those of Liverpool, Leeds, Birmingham, Nottingham, are still in their infancy. In another generation it is all but certain that they will effectively supply all the education, short of the highest, demanded by the populations about them. Oxford and Cambridge will be relieved of the present strain, and will continue to make sustained provision for the highest education possible to Englishmen.

"For the highest possible education it is reasonable that a high price should be paid; and just at present the colleges find it very hard to make ends meet. Agricultural depression has hit them hard. In order to keep working at all, they have, like other landlords, to supplement agriculture by commerce, and make a profit off their undergraduates. The necessity is painful; but there seems no way out of it while the depression continues, and if, as some think, the depression is permanent, the college charges as distinct from the personal expenses of an Oxford student must be quite as high as they are now. But, on the other hand, there is a great increase of simplicity in social intercourse. Purposeless waste is looked on much more in its true light, and in this one cannot estimate too highly the good influence of the married Fellows, who know the value of money and the still greater value of thrift. Athletics, which constitute so large a part of an ordinary University training, are not very expensive so long as they are confined to rowing or football in winter and cricket or lawn-tennis in summer. Riding costs a great deal, but there are only a very few men who ride. A good deal is often spent on the decoration of rooms, in which the general taste has made great advances in the last ten years. But it may be said on the whole that the necessities of life in the wider sense can be had for less than formerly, though a man who should live as Clough did would still be a striking exception to the rest.

"The education which Oxford offers on these terms is, so far as the intellectual nature is concerned, much more varied than it used to be. After moderations it is now possible to take honours in any one of six different schools. Again, in the classical school itself, which still remains the most characteristic of Oxford training, and which attracts on the whole the ablest men, there is very considerable room for special study in different lines. While it is wisely insisted upon that, on the whole, every one shall be examined in the same large field of reading, a principle of compensation allows a man to make the most of himself if he has specialised on pure scholarship, on ancient history, or on ancient or modern philosophy. Some wish to specialise still more. But it is to be hoped that the good sense of the University, while it gives full facilities for special study to those who wish it, will not make specialisation compulsory. What the great mass of those who pass through Oxford want is an education which shall be a culture. They have no desire to concentrate on crystallography, or palæontology, or comparative grammar; but it is of vital importance to them that they should know something of what the human mind, at its highest, has said, thought, done. Some acquaintance with the greatest masterpieces of literature; some appreciation of Roman law and government, of Greek art and politics; some insight into the speculative problems that have exercised the ancient and modern world, into the laws of thought and the springs of action; this is what the school of Literæ Humaniores offers, and which does give to those who receive it more real culture, sets them on a higher level, than is done by any other existing form of education. It does not profess to train men for a profession. But a University should have a higher object than that of giving a professional training, and any time spent in acquiring these tendencies and attitudes of mind which such an education fosters is not time lost. In the case of the learned professions this has long been recognised. There is no point in which one is in keener sympathy with Dr. Burgon than in his observations on the danger and scandal of a clergy who are half unlettered, who have been cramped in aims and narrowed in interests by an education too purely professional. The seminary priest, we agree, is the thing to be in every possible way avoided. But if Oxford itself had become a seminary, one hardly knows whether the results for the Church or for England would have been more disastrous.

"Again, there is an increasing number of men who go from Oxford into the professions of medicine, architecture, engineering, and the like. These all can begin at the University the study of their life-time, while they carry from it into the outer world something of the humanizing spirit of a place which professes at least to regard wisdom as a thing to be sought rather than success, and to find in the use of the highest human faculties the true object of life. The same is even more strongly true of the large number of men who go from Oxford to inherit some large business, and who remain all their lives after something better than mere business men. Of the moral eduction which Oxford offers it may still be said that each man finds what he seeks. There are those whose University training leaves worse than it found, more self-indulgent, more extravagant, even in some cases more ignorant; there are others who pass through it unchanged, who take no part in its common life, and are unstirred by its ideas and impulses. But to the great majority it breaks the transition from boyhood to manhood, and accustoms them gradually to freedom and thought, to the sense of responsibility, the admiration of greatness, the habit of organised social action.

"Summed up in a word, the difference between Oxford in the past and in the present is that now it has gone into the swim. This may be the only Conservatism now possible; the Tory party in politics has done the same. One cannot, at all events, wonder that the changes planned and carried out with so light a heart seem to many strange and ill-ominous. But the movement onward is too strong to be stayed; something we may do to guide it, but to do so we must put ourselves at its head. Our courage to do so—if it be in no light desire of change or wantonness of dissatisfaction, but in the grave performance of a difficult and often an ungracious duty, that we set hand to it—will vary, I suppose, according to the strength of our faith in progress, or, as I would rather say, of our trust in Providence. Oxford descends to us as a priceless inheritance; what we have to do beyond all else is to keep in it, in the noble words of an Oxford poet, 'an altar-stone unbroken, and an altar-flame alive.' Sometimes one loses heart, and a dim vision rises before one of a place where letters are forgotten and technical training has killed a liberal education, and the jingle of tramway cars fills streets once shadowy with elms and loud with nightingales; a University that will emblazon over its doorways a shut book, with the legend *Electricitas illuminatio mea*. But these fears are perhaps cowardly: it will be found harder to kill culture in Oxford than it was to translate Magdalen Bridge.

"For the charm of Oxford is so subtle and so powerful that just as it eludes definition so it seems to defy time. Changed as it is outwardly—and I can scarcely think that if any one who was familiar with it forty years ago were to revisit it now he would feel that the new buildings of Merton pleased the eye, or that the constellation of spires and towers gained a fresh loveliness from being half hid behind the gasworks—it remains the most beautiful city in England. And while the internal changes have been even greater and more significant, it still is the chosen home of the flower of the nation, and its fits of change are the reflection of great national movements. Partly from its mere beauty, partly from the immortal youth of its inhabitants, it attaches to itself something like a personal passion that is handed down unlessened from one generation to another. It is our natural tendency to think too much of the changes and too little of the great background that remains unchanged. Belief in the future is hard, if we look only at the former."

LAST YEAR'S HARVEST.

The official returns issued by the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council give an estimate of the yield of the cereal and other principal crops in Great Britain in the year 1884. In the aggregate result the figures for the year show that England and Wales together produced a wheat crop of rather more than 77,867,000 bushels, at an estimated average rate of 29·85 bushels per acre, or 1·19 bushels above the estimated ordinary yearly average yield. For Scotland the estimated total produce amounts to 2,348,000 bushels, at an average rate of 34·17 bushels per acre, or 1·48 bushels above the estimated ordinary average yield. The sum total of the results for wheat in Great Britain is thus brought up altogether to 80,215,000 bushels, the estimated average rate being 29·96 bushels per acre, or 1·19 bushels per acre above the normal standard of production. Looking at the relative production of the several divisions, it appears that of the quantity of wheat produced in England and Wales more than two-fifths were grown in the group comprising the Eastern and parts of certain North-Eastern Counties. Other two-fifths were produced in the Second and Third Divisions of South-Eastern and East Midland Counties, and South-Western and West Midland Counties, over 87 per cent. being grown in these three sections of England. It is here, therefore, that the diminution in the production of wheat and its lower value would, of course, have pressed most severely upon agriculturists. It would appear that, in accordance with anticipation, and apart from the slight gain upon the ordinary standard for barley, wheat is the only corn crop of the year which shows an increased average yield per acre. The estimators in some districts report that, although the quality and weight have been above the average, yet the results as revealed by the thrashing machine have disappointed the expectations formed as to this crop during harvest, and that they had consequently to modify their previous estimate of its prospective yield. In a few localities the harvest is said to have been an exceptionally good one, and more productive per acre than in any year since 1874. The variations in yield have been remarkable, and, even within the limits of a single district, estimated quantities of from 18 to 44 bushels per acre have been recorded according to the character and situation of the land on which it was grown, and the mode of culture pursued.

Of the other corn crops, barley turns out slightly above a standard average, the produce being as variable as that of the wheat crop. The yield of barley in Great Britain has been 73,912,000 bushels, the ordinary average rate per acre being only exceeded by 0·06 of a bushel. The estimated average yield per acre of the oat crop falls short of that of ordinary years by 1·51 bushels, the rate of the present year in Great Britain being only 37·52 bushels per acre, with an aggregate produce of 109,397,000 bushels, of which 36,713,000 bushels were grown in Scotland, at an average yield per acre of 35·10 bushels, or 0·73 of a bushel per acre below the estimated ordinary production.

The lowest average for wheat was 19·20 bushels per acre in Exeter collection, while the highest average rate was 43·48 bushels per acre in Edinburgh collection. For barley the lowest yield was 25·35 bushels, in Welshpool collection, the highest being 41·28 bushels per acre, in that of Canterbury. For oats there are greater contrasts, namely, 27·07 bushels as the lowest average rate, in Hereford collection, and 62·71 bushels per acre as the highest, in that of Cambridge. In the last-mentioned collection a yield of no less than 80 bushels per acre of oats was returned in 14 parishes, while in two others it reached 82 bushels per acre; and upon inquiries being made as to whether the figures furnished in these cases were correct, they were confirmed by the estimator, who added, as a fact within his own knowledge, that several farmers in his district had this year thrashed out no less than 100 bushels of oats to the acre. The pulse crops have suffered in most localities, owing, it is stated, to aphides, and to the continued drought which appears to have interfered with the produce of all crops other than that of wheat. Both peas and beans are considerably under the normal rate of yield. In some localities they were almost a failure, and in others only about two-thirds of an average crop. The rate below an estimated ordinary average in peas appears to be 3·79 bushels per acre, while that of beans is 4·51 bushels per acre.

Among the root crops, potatoes give the only satisfactory results as to the yield, and they are almost universally stated to be of excellent quality, and nearly free from disease. The rate of yield—namely, 6·62 tons per acre—has exceeded that of the average of years by 0·51 of a ton, and shows a gross produce over Great Britain of 3,743,000 tons, or 15 per cent. above the average production. The statements as to the influence of the unusually dry season upon the oat and pulse crops apply with equal, if not greater, force to the yield of the root crops other than potatoes, that of turnips having turned out, as was fully anticipated, much below the average, while mangold presents a greater deficiency, excepting in Scotland, where the average yield per acre has been exceeded by 1·55 tons. The acreage under this crop is, however, there relatively unimportant.

Comparing the figures relating to these principal crops in Great Britain in 1884 with the estimated ordinary average yield per acre, the results for 1884 show a decrease in each case, except in wheat, barley, and potatoes. The average rate of wheat increased by 1·19 bushels per acre, that of barley by 0·06 of a bushel, and that of potatoes by 0·51 of a ton. The rate for oats decreased by 1·51 bushels per acre, the diminution in peas being 3·79, and beans 4·51 bushels per acre, while turnips and mangold decreased by 1·97 and 2·87 tons per acre respectively.

The gross produce in 1884, as compared with the estimated ordinary yearly average of the last decennial period, shows in cereal crops an estimated decrease in wheat of 7,756,000 bushels, or nearly 9 per cent., the diminution in the extent grown in 1884 from the average of the ten years having been not less than 380,700 acres. For barley there appears to be 8,889,000 bushels less, or nearly 11 per cent., the material factor being here likewise the very considerable decrease in the acreage under this grain. In oats, on the other hand, notwithstanding the diminished rate of yield in the present year, we find the total produce in 1884 has exceeded that of the yearly average of the period referred to by 1,385,000 bushels, or about 1 per cent., the area sown having been greater by 147,700 acres. For peas, the diminution in the estimated total production, as compared with the period in question, would appear to be 2,103,000 bushels, the decrease in beans being 2,939,000 bushels. In the other crops for 1884, similarly compared, there is an estimated increase of 490,000 tons in potatoes, while turnips and mangold have decreased by 4,565,000 and 1,295,000 tons respectively.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK AND THE LATE DEAN MANSEL.

The Archbishop of York has addressed the following letter to the *Times*:—

"My attention has been called to a passage in the *Life of Frederick Denison Maurice*, vol. ii., page 333, second edition, on the subject of the Bampton Lectures of Mr. Mansel. The passage runs thus: 'Dr. Thomson, the present Archbishop of York, at that time Preacher of Lincoln's Inn, came up from Oxford at the beginning of each term to preach at the morning service. In those days he sometimes walked back to luncheon at Russell-square between services. At the beginning of one of the terms of 1858 he came full of the subject of the Bampton Lectures, of which two or three had been already delivered. He described the crowded audiences eagerly listening to discourses of which it was certain that at least large portions were wholly unintelligible to the great majority of hearers. He spoke of the matter as in its essence the most unalloyed atheism that had been heard in England for generations. He described the immense popularity which the lectures were nevertheless acquiring, because they served as such an admirable excuse for laughing at all troublesome German and English thinkers, enabling all those who never thought at all to feel their own superiority to the fools who searched after wisdom. The subject touched on in the vestry was discussed throughout the walk home, and was begun anew at the luncheon-table.'

"Kindly give me space to deny that I have ever used words so foolish and so utterly unjustifiable. The statement is inaccurate in many ways. I was elected Preacher of Lincoln's Inn on the 16th April, 1858, and preached my first sermon on Sunday, the 18th. On that day Mr. Maurice invited me to lunch. I believe that I had never been in his company before. The conversation about the Bampton Lectures, so far as there was any, must have taken place then, and at no earlier or later time. I had been present at two Bampton Lectures, and at luncheon table (certainly not in the vestry) Mr. Maurice asked some questions about them. What my remarks were I cannot after 27 years recall, but what they were might be inferred from the following considerations. In the two lectures which I had heard there is not a single sentence which can be twisted into an imputation of atheism. On every page the intention to promote the honour of God is manifest. To say of these two lectures that they were atheism at all would have been preposterous; to say that they were 'the most unalloyed atheism that had been heard in England for generations' would have been something worse. The word 'atheism' I specially dislike, and I have never used it of anything that was not so described by its own author. In the year 1860-61 a volume of essays called *Aids to Faith* was projected by me, and published. Mr. Mansel was one of the first whose aid I sought, and his essay on Miracles in that book was the result. Not long after that I projected the *Speaker's Commentary*, and sought the co-operation of Professor Mansel. Thus it comes out that on that Sunday in 1858 I told Mr. Maurice, till then a stranger, that a respected friend of many years' standing was engaged in preaching, under the guise of evidential sermons, not merely atheism, but atheism more pronounced than had been heard for generations—worse, let us say, than Lamettrie and Thomas Paine—and that his audience did not find him out because they were not qualified to understand him; and further, that after this I sought to import such a teacher and such teaching into *Aids to Faith* and into the *Speaker's Commentary*.

"What I thought of the Bampton Lectures, when they were completed, I am able to say with exactness, because I wrote a very short notice of them in the *Saturday Review* in the autumn of 1858. There is no suggestion of 'atheism;' there is an apprehension that the method of the lecturer, ably used for the defence of the Anglican position, might be used with effect to defend other Christian systems, and even some that were not Christian. That is still my opinion, and it is shared by many. But Mr. Maurice could not have got it from me then, as I had only heard two of the lectures.

"The friend who introduced me on that Sunday to Mr. Maurice writes now:—'I am quite sure that you never in my hearing spoke of Mansel as the *Life* says. And as you and I used to talk more or less about Maurice and Mansel and the *Aids to Faith*, I am sure I should have known and remembered if you had ever said anything of that kind, or had any such opinion of him. As soon as I read it in the *Life*, I said, "I am sure that this is not true, any more than Maurice's ignorant abuse of Lyndhurst."'

"Mr. Maurice, whose memory I hold in great respect, was, in conversation, gentle, eloquent, humble, charming; but he was a most fierce controversialist. I have had personal experience of him in both characters, and I know that against Mr. Mansel he had a special animosity. It is clear that this conversation is not taken from a contemporary note, or we should not be told that I had been for some time Preacher of Lincoln's Inn, and that this conversation took place in the vestry of the chapel, a little windowless closet in the chapel itself, the door of which could never be closed without risk of asphyxia, and any word spoken in which became at once the property of the whole congregation.

"With regard to the terms of disparagement,

derived from other sources, which are used immediately after the passage quoted above, even the heat of controversy cannot palliate them. Any one who described Mr. Mansel as a 'common-room wit and joker' only, took a very false view of his position in the respect of his contemporaries at Oxford. His influence in all matters of deeper study and thought was extremely great, and he owed it to the manliness of his character, to his great learning, and to his clearness and vigour of thought. If there were any who wished him less witty, I never met them."

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. W. Askwith, Curate-in-Charge of South Bank, Eston, to Vicarage of Ugthorpe, Whitby.

Rev. St. Vincent Beechey, junior, Rector of All Saints', Newton Heath, to Rectory of St. John-the-Evangelist's, Cheetham-hill. Patron, the Bishop of Manchester.

Rev. M. J. B. Bennett, Curate of St. John-the-Evangelist's, Facit, Rochdale, to Curacy of St. Luke's, Miles Platting.

Rev. C. P. Berryman, Rector of Pitney, Somerset, to Rectory of Laverstoke-with-Freefolk. Patron, Mr. Melville Portal, Laverstoke House.

Rev. N. Borton, to Vicarage of Burwell. Patrons, the University of Cambridge.

Rev. W. Brooke, Curate of All Saints', South Acton, to be Diocesan Inspector of Schools for Derbyshire.

Rev. T. Callinan, to Vicarage of Bearpark. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

Rev. R. H. Cobbold, Rector of Ross, to be Prebendary of Norton, in Hereford Cathedral.

Rev. L. M. Dalton, to Perpetual Curacy of St. Gabriel's, Canning Town. Patron, the Bishop of St. Alban's.

Rev. C. H. Deane, Retired Senior Chaplain, Madras Presidency, to Vicarage of Willoughby. Patrons, Magdalen College, Oxford.

Rev. G. C. Dicker, Vicar of St. John's, Birkenhead, to be Surrogate in the Diocese of Chester.

Rev. J. Fairbrother, Rector of Amble, to be Surrogate in the Diocese of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Rev. S. Hailstone, to be Clerk in Orders in Manchester Cathedral.

Rev. A. J Harrison, Vicar of St. James's, Waterfoot, Manchester, to Chaplaincy of Christ Church, Neuilly, Paris.

Rev. J. Henderson, Vicar of Ancroft, Northumberland, to Rectory of Shadforth, Durham. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Durham.

Rev. A. Metcalfe, Curate of Christ Church, Clifton, to Incumbency of Gorsley. Patron, the Vicar of Newent.

Rev. H. L. Norden, Curate of St. James's, Southampton, to Incumbency of the New District of St. Peter, Staines.

Rev. A. M. Reid, to Rectory of Merton, Norfolk. Patron, Lord Walsingham.

Rev. W. M. Roberts, Curate of Welshpool, to Vicarage of Bettws. Patron, the Earl of Powis.

Rev. W. J. Rowland, Vicar of Stoke-sub-Hamdon, near Ilminster.

Rev. W. S. Sellon, to be Perpetual Curate of Newton.

Rev. M. R. Sharp, late Curate of Newbury, Berkshire, to be Curate of Nantwich, Cheshire.

Rev. J. H. Smith, to be Minor Canon in Rochester Cathedral.

Rev. W. M. Smith-Dorrien, Curate of St. Martin's, Brighton, to be Minor Canon in Durham Cathedral.

Rev. I. Taylor, Rector of Setterington, to be Canon and Prebend of Fenton, in York Minster.

Rev. H. D. Thomas, Curate of St. John's, Westminster, to Vicarage of Longdon, Worcestershire. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.—Revs. William Stephen Caiger, B.A., to St. Andrew, Burnley; Alured Bayfield de Moleyns, M.A., to St. Peter, Fleetwood; William Archibald Pippett, to St. James, Didsbury.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF NORWICH.—Revs. Frederick William Hall Lister Courtier, M.A., to Friston-with Snape; Edward Henry Newenham, M.A., to Southacre.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH.—Rev. R. E. C. Walker, to Bringhurst-cum-Great Easton.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS.—Revs. William Adcock, to St. Saviour's, Forest-gate; William John Beck Hancock, to Great Waltham.

OBITUARY.

Jan. 18, at 8, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, London, the Rev. T. Bryer Hinde, aged 43.

Jan. 23, at Hastings, the Rev. Salem Myers, Chaplain Bengal Establishment, aged 37.

Jan. 28, at Newick, Sussex, the Rev. Wm. Powell, Rector of Newick, aged 67.

Jan. 29, at Charing-cross Hospital, the Rev. Dawson William Turner, D.C.L., formerly Head Master of the Royal Institution School, Liverpool, aged 69.

Jan 29, at 5, Alexander-square, Brompton, the Rev. Lewis Drummond Kennedy, Rector of Heddlethorpe, St. Helen's, aged 66.

Jan. 30, at the Vicarage, Shalford, Guildford, the Rev. R. B. Matthews, M.A., for thirty years Vicar of that parish, aged 62.

Jan. 31, at St Mary's Vicarage, Stony Stratford, the Rev. Armine Wale Mountain, aged 61.

Jan. 30, at Rose-hill House, Worcester, the Rev. Robert Burr Bourne, formerly Rector of Donhead St. Andrew, Wilts, aged 86.

Jan. 30, the Rev. Henry Hassard, M.A., Rector of Stockton Forest, York, aged 73.

Jan. 30, at the Vicarage, Northfleet, the Rev. Frederic Southgate, aged 61.

Feb. 1, at 57, Queen Anne-street, London, W., the Rev. William Gabbett, late Rector of Inniscarra, County Cork, aged 69.

Feb. 1, at Fulham, the Rev. James M. H. Strangways, A.M., sometime Rector of Baronstown, county Louth, and for upwards of twenty years Vicar Choral of Armagh Cathedral, in his 70th year.

Feb. 2, at Howard House, Bedford, the Rev. James Baldwyn Pugh, Vicar of Napton-on-the-Hill, Warwickshire, aged 69.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The *Daily News* hears that the Archbishop of Canterbury has approved of the proposal to create a bishopric in Fiji, but has, at the same time, disclaimed any intention to interfere with the Wesleyan Mission, or to proselytise natives who are already converted to Christianity.

The Rev. Isaac Taylor, LL.D., rector of Settington, has been appointed to the canonry and prebend of Fenton, in York Minster, vacant by the death of Canon Blakeney, rector of Bridlington. Dr. Taylor was a former vicar of Twickenham.

The Rev. W. M. Smith-Dorrien, curate of St. Martin's, Brighton, has been appointed by the Dean and Chapter of Durham to the minor canonry and rectorship in the Cathedral void by the resignation of the Rev. T. Rogers.

The Crown living of Northfleet, near Gravesend, of the value of £400 a year, has become vacant by the death, in his 61st year, of the Rev. Frederic Southgate, who was appointed to the same in 1858.

The Rev. J. Grey Richardson, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, vicar of Monks Kirby, Warwick, has been elected to the Warburton Lectureship, in succession to the Rev. Dr. Edersheim. This lecture, which is tenable for four years, is delivered in the chapel of the Society of Lincoln's-inn, and was established in 1768 by Dr. Warburton, Bishop of Gloucester.

The Rev. Robert Hey, vicar of St. Peter's, Belper, since 1845, and ex-prebendary of Lichfield, was taken ill whilst walking home from church on Sunday night, and died in a few minutes. He was well-known for his services to religious education.

The *Cape Argus* of December 10, 1884, says:—"The Bishop of Pretoria purposes leaving us in January on a visit to England. He has well earned a short respite from the arduous work which is inseparable from his office in a young diocese like this. A man with less physical strength and vigour could not have stood the wear and tear of six years' Episcopal work in the Transvaal. He has by dint of sheer hard work and frequent journeyings from one end of the country to the other, had to make up for his lack of clergy and money, and in few Colonial dioceses is a Bishop so well known to his flock as is Bishop Bousfield. He not only frequently visits the towns and villages, but goes off in every direction where Englishmen and their families are to be found."

In order to commemorate the great public services of the late Principal of the University of Edinburgh, Sir Alexander Grant, his friends and admirers have raised by subscription a fund exceeding £12,500, which will be settled in trust for the benefit of his widow and children.

A very effective two-light Munich window has just been placed in Great Bar Church, near Birmingham, representing the delivery of St. Peter from prison. The drawing is exceedingly good and artistic, and the colouring rich and harmonious. The artists are Messrs. Mayer and Co.

The large-five light east window in Ewerby Parish Church has just been filled with stained glass, as a memorial to the late Earl of Winchilsea. It is the gift of the Hon. Finch-Hatton, M.P., and his family.

The Church of St. Peter, Belsize Park, has received an addition to its painted glass, of a window, from the studio of Mr. Taylor, of Berners-street, a gift to the church by bequest of the late Mrs. Abram. The subject is "Peter and John at the 'Beautiful' Gate of the Temple."

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Rev. Edward King, D.D., Canon of Christchurch and Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology in the University of Oxford, to the See of Lincoln, which Bishop Wordsworth resigns; and the Very Rev. E. H. Bickersteth, Dean of Gloucester, to the See of Exeter, in succession to Bishop Temple, translated to London.

The Very Rev. E. H. Bickersteth is the son of the late Rev. Edward Bickersteth, some time rector of Watton, Hertfordshire, and a near relative of the late Lord Langdale; he comes thus from a family which has long been identified with the Moderate Evangelical party in the Church of England. Dr. Bickersteth was born about the year 1825, and graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1847, having already won the Chancellor's medals for English verse in three successive years. He also subsequently obtained the Seatonian prize for a poem on a sacred subject. He was ordained deacon in 1848 and priest in 1849 by the Bishop of Norwich. He held successively the curacies of Banningham, Norfolk, and of Christ Church, Tunbridge-wells, and the vicarage of Hinton Martell, Dorsetshire. From 1855 down to the present time he has held the incumbency of Christ Church, Hampstead. He was also chaplain to his relative the late Bishop (Bickersteth) of Ripon, and Rural Dean of Highgate. He is the author of a *Commentary on the New Testament*, *The Hymnal Companion to the Book of Common Prayer*, a variety of sermons, tracts, and lesser publications of a religious character, and of a poem, cast in the Miltonic mould, entitled "Jesus, the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever." It was only last month that he was installed in the Deanery of Gloucester.

The Rev. Edward King, Canon of Christ Church, Oxford, and Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology in that University, is a son of a former Archdeacon of a part of Essex when it was included in the diocese of Rochester, and was born about the year 1829. He was formerly of Oriel College, Oxford, where he took his Bachelor's degree in 1851, and proceeded M.A. in 1855. He was ordained Deacon in 1854 by the Bishop of Oxford (Dr. Wilberforce), and was admitted into priest's orders by the same Prelate in the following year. He was for four years curate of Wheatley, near Oxford, and then for five more years chaplain and lecturer at Cuddesdon College, to the Principalship of which he succeeded on the death of Mr. Swiney in 1863. At the end of ten years, during which he was a most popular and energetic Principal, he was nominated to the Regius Professorship of Pastoral Theology, to which is attached a canonry in Christ Church Cathedral. Dr. King (he took his degree of D.D. on his last preferment) is a moderate High Churchman, free from strong party views.

The West London Mission is to take place next week. The avoidance of the see has had a somewhat unfortunate effect upon the movement by depriving it of its natural head; but the Bishop-Designate has promised to deliver at Westminster Abbey on Saturday afternoon, at four o'clock, an address to the Missioners, parochial clergy, and others engaged in the work. In a large number of the parishes active preparations are being made, and it is hoped that the Mission may, after all, prove a great success. The Archbishop of Canterbury will preach at the Abbey at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon, and the Archbishop of York at the thanksgiving service, which will be held at half-past seven on Tuesday, the 17th inst.

The Bishop Elect of London presided at Exeter on Monday night, at the annual meeting of the Exeter Temperance Society, and took the opportunity of alluding to his future work. This was, he said, the last annual meeting of the Exeter Association which he should attend as their Bishop, because it had pleased God to call him to another sphere; but although it wrenched his heart to part from Exeter and its work, yet a man had to consider not what he would like, but what God had called him to do for its fellow-men, and it was not because the work was harder that he should flinch from it. He had been summoned to a different kind of work, and he had thought it his duty to obey the summons which the Queen through the Prime Minister conveyed to him. But he was sure he should be believed when he said the cause of temperance would be as dear to his heart in London as in Exeter. In going to London there was one great attraction above all others, and that was in the work that lay before him in connection with the improvement of the condition and elevating the character of the great mass of the people. There were among the poor some of the noblest, purest, and most essentially Christian men that could anywhere be found. It was not in the cultivated or wealthier classes they should alone look for the truest servants of God. Down in the lower ranks, as it was the fashion to call them, where the temptations were terrible, and where the suffering, perplexity, and uncertainty of life were aggravated by the sins into which they were led by these very circumstances, there were found many of the noblest men. But there was also a terrible amount of misery and degradation in these ranks. It was not that these men were more ready to sin or to give way to temptation, but the temptation was presented in a more potent form, and attacked them when they were far more helpless than others in the classes of life above them. What could be more terrible than the state of the great masses of poor in the City of London—a state from which the higher elements of humanity often seemed to be altogether effaced? What could be more distressing than the state of hundreds of thousands living in miles and miles of its poor streets? And not by millions of money could they really alleviate their condition for any length of time, unless they set them free from the terrible temptations which beset them. All who knew anything of the poor knew that what was wanted to enable the poor man to be happy, as far as happiness was given in this present life, was to change his circumstances in such a way as to elevate his moral and spiritual character. All else was mere palliation or alleviation. They might help a man here and there, or pick out a few families, and make them a little more comfortable, but all they could do would have no real and permanent value unless it was possible to get them to help themselves to struggle out of the misery into which they had fallen. What they wanted was to give them that moral strength and internal force which would enable them to resist the evil influences surrounding them. That was what they should labour for; and for this reason he had always had the strongest desire to help forward the cause of temperance. There was nothing else which touched so closely the moral and spiritual condition of the mass of the people. It was to work of this kind beyond all other that he should desire to devote all the energy he possessed.

Speaking at the annual meeting at Exeter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Dr. Temple said:—I am soon to leave this diocese, I do not expect at my age now that I can have another period of work, so happy a work, so well-befriended, as the work I have done here in Exeter, for nothing can be kinder than the friendship I have everywhere met with, and nothing can go more to my very heart than the way in which the whole diocese has responded to everything I have endeavoured to do in the service of the Church or for the good of my fellow-creatures since I have been here. I go because it appeared to me I have no right to refuse such a call. I go to heavier work than I have had to do. I go there with very much less chance of being surrounded with such friends as I found here, and I should not go at all if I did not think it an imperative duty to the Church to obey the summons I have received. Nor for the rest of my life shall I ever forget the county of Devon and the city of Exeter, and those from whom I have constantly received such kindness.

The Rev. Dawson William Turner, D.C.L., died on Thursday, the 29th ult., at Charing-cross Hospital. The reverend gentleman graduated at Magdalen College, Oxford, of which he was an Exhibitioner and Demy, taking his Bachelor's degree as a second-class *in literis humanioribus* in 1838, proceeding M.A. in 1840, and B.C.L. and D.C.L. in 1862. He was ordained deacon in 1840, and held for many years the head-mastership of the Royal Institution School at Liverpool. Dr. Turner was the author, *inter alia*, of the *Analyses* of English, French, Greek, and Roman history, *Notes on Herodotus*, and *A First Italian Teaching Book*; he edited the *Knights*, *Acharnians*, and *Birds* of Aristophanes, with English notes; and published *A German Handbook*, an edition of *Ahn's German Grammar*, a translation of Pindar, &c.

The Dean of Westminster on Sunday morning preached at the Abbey on behalf of the fund to meet the expenses of the West and North London Mission. He selected for his text 1 Cor. ix. 24: "They which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize. So run that you may obtain," &c. After alluding to the public games of ancient Greece, the Dean went on to say that life itself was a great race—a great struggle, full of difficulties to be overcome and dangers to be faced. And then there was the prize. Some people thought that men should lead a good life merely because of the prize, but the true teaching of Christianity was that people should be good and pure and holy simply for the love of God. As he was no doubt addressing many who would in another week go forth from this Abbey full of the love of God and anxious to teach the Gospel to those who were lost in the depths of sin and misery, he would urge them to put that fact in the very forefront of their teaching. In a few days a large body of clergy and laity would go out fearlessly into the dark places of the west and north of this vast metropolis, to search out, and may be, save those who now were cursed with the moral leprosy of sin. The Westminster School, in its collective capacity, already supported a mission in the crowded parts of London, but many of those connected with the school would individually be engaged in the coming Mission. Much thought had been given to the question as to what part this old Abbey should take in the Mission, and it had been decided that the workers should meet there to receive counsel before commencing their work, and again at the finish to offer up their thanks. Many great and good and important works had gone forth from that Cathedral; and he could not exaggerate the feelings of horror which would come over the land if ever anyone was dastardly or demoniacal enough to destroy this ancient and venerable fabric, around which the traditions of so many good works clustered. In conclusion, the very rev. gentleman made an eloquent appeal to the large congregation for their alms in support of the Mission. At St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, during the mission, series of addresses will be delivered by present and past headmasters to public school men and others. The following is a list of those by whom the addresses will be delivered:—Sunday, February 8, at 5 p.m., the Ven. Archdeacon Farrar; Monday, February 9, at 8 p.m., the Bishop of Southwell (late Headmaster of Winchester); Tuesday, February 10, at 6 p.m., the Rev. R. Wilson, M.A. (Headmaster of Radley); Wednesday, February 11, at 6 p.m., the Rev. E. Thring, M.A. (Headmaster of Uppingham); Thursday, February 12, at 6 p.m., the Rev. W. Haig Brown, D.D. (Headmaster of Charterhouse); Friday, February 13, at 8 p.m., the Rev. E. C. Wickham, M.A. (Headmaster of Wellington); Saturday, February 14, at 6 p.m., the Rev. H. M. Butler, D.D. (Headmaster of Harrow); Sunday, February 15, at 5 p.m., the Rev. Canon Hole.

The consecration of the new chancel and the reopening of St. Marylebone parish church after renovation and decoration took place on Saturday, the Bishop of Bedford, as Commissary for the Archbishop of Canterbury and guardian of the spiritualities of the See during the vacancy, officiating. The service commenced with the *Veni Creator Spiritus*, sung by the surpliced choir to Attwood's pathetic melody, after which the favourite dedication hymn, "The Church's one foundation," was sung. The consecration service, according to the simple use of the diocese of London, was then performed by the Bishop, the Archbishop's commission and the sentence of consecration being read by Mr. John Hassard, the Primate's principal registrar. A shortened form of Evening Prayer followed, after which the Bishop of Bedford preached an eloquent discourse on "The Church as the visible kingdom of Christ on earth." The Bishop prefaced his sermon with a few touching remarks in reference to the death of the late Bishop, and asked the prayers of the congregation for his successor. Among the clergy present were the Hon. and Rev. J. W. Leigh, Prebendary Webb, the Rev. Berdmore Compton, the Rev. J. L. Davies (Rural Dean), the Rev. Charles Gutch, the Rev. F. J. Ponsonby, and the Rev. Sholto Douglas. The choir, which was augmented for the occasion, rendered the choral portions of the service with artistic skill and devotional feeling. The re-opening services were continued yesterday, and will be carried on daily until Sunday next, inclusive. Among the numerous special gifts that have supplemented the work of the general fund may be mentioned the four painted windows in the apse by Mr. Waller, and those in the nave by Mr. F. Hicks, Mrs. Lambert, Lieutenant-Colonel Burgess, Mr. J. C. Burgoyne, the rector, the St. Marylebone Guild, and other donors. Mr. Burke gave the mosaics for the altar table, and Mr. Walden the sedilia. The preachers during the week include the Bishop of Carlisle, Archdeacon Hussey, and Canon Basil Wilberforce.

The first general meeting of the Church Property Defence Association was held on Tuesday afternoon at the St. James's Hall, Piccadilly. The Rev. H. Leach, vicar of St. Peter's, Kensington-park-gardens, presided, and there was a numerous attendance of clerical and lay patrons of benefices. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, explained that the association consisted of patrons and other persons interested in Church property, who thought it desirable to unite in defence of their just rights. The subject of patronage and the sale of advowsons had of late occupied considerable attention in Parliament, and various suggestions had been made for the purpose of effecting changes in the laws at present regulating the sale and transfer of Church livings. No doubt scandals had occurred, but the remedies hitherto proposed were based on inequitable provisions. The Select Committee of the House of Commons had made recommendations which were regarded by patrons as extremely unfair, and such as they could not quietly submit to see adopted. There were, he believed, about 1,000 livings held by clerical patrons, and upwards of 2,500 held by lay patrons, many of whom were trustees for the clergy. The ordinary scale of compensation varied from 10 to 12½ years' purchase, and the Committee of the House of Commons reported that if a fair method of compensation were adopted, the sale of advowsons should be prohibited within certain limitations. That was a somewhat ambiguous proposal, and one that might be variously interpreted. If the scale of compensation was under no circumstances to amount to more than five times the annual value of the living, advowsons would become altogether unsaleable. Now, it was well know that recent Church Building Acts had encouraged laymen to contribute large sums of money towards the erection of churches, which were regarded as investments, in return for which they secured the patronage of the livings, and it would be dishonest to defraud the patrons of their just rights. In his opinion the real object sought in depreciating the rate of compensation was in order to provide for a future emergency. Probably in their desire to deal with certain circumstances that existed in connection with private patronage some friends of the Church had been misled by the crafty action of its foes, so that when the day of disestablishment should come the amount of compensation should not be so large as that which was paid in the case of the Irish Church. Private patrons had no desire to uphold any existing abuses which did injury to the Church, and therefore they ought to be prepared to suggest to Parliament a plan of reform by which such abuses might be rectified without entailing what practically amounted to confiscation. The Rev. Dr. Williams, of Christ Church, Brondesbury, moved:—"That this meeting views with dissatisfaction the Church Patronage Bills and the recommendations of the committee thereon, because the proposed scale of compensation is inequitable, and because the proposal to transfer Church patronage to Parochial Boards and to charge benefices with the purchase money would injure the welfare of the Church." He believed the Bill was a stealthy blow struck at the Church in the dark by one who was no friend of the Church, and it had spread consternation among many families. The Rev. E. P. Gibson seconded the motion, which was agreed to. The second resolution, moved by Mr. J. Fanshawe, and seconded by Mr. J. A. Wild, urged the necessity of patrons combining to protect their threatened interests, which was adopted. The third resolution, moved by the chairman, and seconded by the Rev. G. De Gruchy, rector of Stoke St. Milburgh, Salop, set forth that as large sums of money had been invested in Church property patrons ought to resist the prohibition or restriction of the transfer of Church property unless equitable compensation were afforded, although patrons would welcome any alteration in the law that would prevent the institution of clergymen morally or physically unfit. The motion was unanimously adopted, as were others approving the formation of the association and defining its objects and work.

The Bishop of Ely on Tuesday dedicated the newly-built portion of St. Luke's Church, New Chesterton, one of the most populous suburbs of the borough of Cambridge. Trinity College has given liberally; the Rev. E. W. Blore, Vice-Master of Trinity, has presented the tower and spire; and Prince Edward is among the subscribers; but the church presents one of the most remarkable instances of self-denying perseverance and earnest work on the part of the inhabitants of a parish which has sprung into existence within about twenty years. As the Bishop of Ely said at the luncheon, the work had not been accomplished by great gifts, but by an unceasing effort to awaken the sympathies of those who gave of their little, and this process had been going on for twelve years, until the fabric was finished so far as utility was concerned. The Bishop of Durham, the Master of Pembroke, the Vice-Master of Trinity, and Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., were present and addressed the meeting.

Tuesday was observed as a "quiet day" at Westminster Abbey. There was throughout the morning a very large attendance of the leading clergy, including the Bishop-Designate of Exeter, and lay workers of both sexes and all ranks in the West-end, completely filling the choir and the greater part of the transepts. There was perfect silence in the Abbey, the majority of those present kneeling in private prayer, broken only by occasional addresses, preceded by the *Veni Creator*, delivered by the Bishop of Bedford. The address at a quarter past twelve was on the vision of God, which he said was very real, and not a mere ecstatic fancy in the quietude of such a day, in the still greater solemnity of a longer retreat, or in a mission. His Lordship controverted the views of those who regarded unusual religious efforts as tending to sensationalism, and said that he believed on such occasions God granted to the man of faith a very real vision of Himself, though to him who only desired to do what was proper and respectable retreats or missions must seem unreal.

In a letter addressed to the Archdeacon of Nottingham, Miss Wordsworth expresses the thanks of the Bishop of Lincoln to the clergy and laity of Nottinghamshire for the address recently signed by them on the severance of the Archdeaconry and county of Nottingham from his episcopal guidance. The letter concludes with a reference to the very enfeebled and exhausted condition of the Bishop's health, by which he is prevented from writing himself. The address was signed by nearly all the clergy in the archdeaconry, including the Archdeacon and the Rural Deans. Among the laity were the names of Earl Manvers, the Duke of Portland, Viscount Galway, M.P., the High Sheriff of Notts (Mr. F. C. Smith), Sir Henry Bromley, Sir Thomas White, Lord Newark, Mr. Foljambe, M.P., Mr. Hildyard, M.P., Mr. Storer, M.P., Mr. Nicholson, M.P., Mr. Sherbrooke, many of the county magistrates, churchwardens, and others.

The sixth annual social gathering in connection with St. Saviour's Mission, South Hampstead, was held on Wednesday evening at the Vestry Hall, Haverstock-hill, there being a large attendance of workers in this important and growing mission and their friends. The mission has taken up the scheme of building a church, and Earl Nelson has accepted the presidency of the committee which has been formed to carry out the work. Mr. Mackeson is vice-chairman, and Mr. George Bell, of Bramerton, Hampstead, has been appointed treasurer. An excellent concert formed an agreeable item in the proceedings, and at the conclusion of this Earl Nelson, who presided, in the course of a brief address congratulated the mission-workers on the success which had attended their efforts in the promotion of real good Christian work. They would have, in the work on which they entered, the sympathy and support of the new Bishop of London, who desired, in all he did, to make the Church of England the Church of the people. Short addresses were also delivered by Mr. George Bell, Mr. Charles Mackeson, and other gentlemen.

A crowded meeting was held on Wednesday night at Exeter Hall to hear farewell addresses from the Rev. W. W. Cassels, B.A. (late curate of All Saints, South Lambeth), Mr. Stanley P. Smith, B.A. (late stroke of the Cambridge Eight), Mr. C. T. Studd, B.A. (late captain of the Cambridge Eleven), Mr. D. E. Hoste (late Royal Artillery), Mr. Montagu Beauchamp, B.A., Mr. Cecil Polhill-Turner (late 2nd Dragoon Guards), and Mr. Arthur Polhill-Turner, B.A. These gentlemen, who had postponed their departure till to-day in order to be present at the meeting last night, are about to start for China in connection with the China Inland Mission. Long before the time announced for the meeting the large hall was crowded in every part, and an overflow meeting of some of the many unable to obtain admission was held in the small hall. Mr. George Williams occupied the chair. Among those occupying seats on the platform was a deputation of forty undergraduates from Cambridge. The meeting having been opened by singing and prayer, the chairman, in a short address, presented, on behalf of the British and Foreign Bible Society, each of the gentlemen about to proceed to China with a special copy of the New Testament in Chinese. Mr. Broomhead, secretary of the mission, explained that it was founded some twenty years ago, and was maintained on the principle of never personally soliciting subscriptions, and of never guaranteeing any income to the brethren who went out. In its operations, moreover, the mission was perfectly undenominational. Last year the income of the mission was upwards of £18,000. The Rev. C. J. Landell, a member of the Chinese Mission, who had been in China some years, stated that the Chinese were not a race of savages, but men who were able to cope in intellect with the best that Oxford and Cambridge could send. The gentlemen who were about to leave for China then severally addressed the meeting. They were received with great enthusiasm, and all spoke with the utmost earnestness as they related how they had been induced by motives of religion and faith in the Gospel of Christ to leave their professions, occupations, and pleasures in this country and undertake missionary work among the Chinese.

The living of Sherburn-in-Elmet, in the gift of the Archbishop of York, is vacant by the death of the Rev. J. Matthews, who held the vicarage for fifty-four years. The living is valued at £300 per annum, with house.

The *Manchester Guardian* says the restoration of the outer south aisle of the Cathedral is now nearly completed. In taking down the pillars of this aisle the workmen found a short time ago a brass plate embedded in the stonework and enclosed in a covering of lead. On the leaden envelope were the words "Open this." The brass plate within was in perfect preservation, and as bright as if it had been recently polished. The following inscription was engraved on the plate:—

"These Five Pillars were erected and the Galleries and Pews throughout the Church rebuilt in the year of our Lord 1815. Thos. Blackburne, LL.D., Warden; John Gatliff, A.M., G. W. Ethelston, A.M., John Clowes, A.M., J. H. Mallory, A.M., Fellows; Joshua Brookes, A.M., J. H. Hindley, A.M., chaplains; C. D. Wray, A.M., assistant-chaplain; William Sandford, Jonathan Dawson, James Beardoe, wardens."

The five pillars referred to were erected in 1815 of rough masonry, with the purpose of being covered with plaster so as to correspond with the outer arcade on the north side. The plate has now been replaced under the fourth pillar of the outer south arcade, counting from the east, the following inscription having been engraved on the reverse:—

"Restoration of Manchester Cathedral begun in the year of our Lord 1882. This plate of brass was found under the third pillar of the outer south aisle on the 6th day of January, 1885, and is now replaced under the fourth pillar of the same aisle on the 22nd day of January, 1885. John Oakley, D.D., Dean. Nathaniel Woodard, D.C.L.; William Crane, M.A.; Charles Wright Woodhouse, M.A.; J. Davenport Kelly, M.A., Canons. George Milner, George Bowring, John William Maclure, churchwardens. Thomas Lings, comptroller; Joseph S. Crowther, architect."

EDUCATIONAL.

THE SCHOOL BOARD BUDGET.

On Thursday, at the School Board for London, Mr. Buxton presiding, the Rev. J. Diggle, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the annual budget, and made a statement explanatory of its contents. He pointed out that the estimate showed a considerable advance upon that of any previous year, and the circumstances under which it was moved were of an exceptional character. The net amount required to maintain the schools and perform the general work of the Board during the year would be £1,106,138. The amount which the Board had borrowed on 29th Sept., 1884, was £5,941,409. Since that date £250,000 had been borrowed, and the Board had further power to borrow before Dec. 31, 1885, a sum of £550,000. It was estimated, however, that £250,000 would be required for this year, and a sum of £600,000 would be required for the year ending Dec. 31, 1886. When these amounts had been borrowed an additional debt of £1,650,000 would have been incurred. On the other hand, the sum repaid by the Board was only £359,378. It was obvious, therefore, that the amount required each year for interest on and payment of loans would steadily increase for many years to come. The second and largest increase was under the head of school maintenance, and amounted to £142,386. The first element in the calculation was to ascertain the number of children who would use the schools of the Board during the year ending March, 1886. This number had been calculated at 87½ per cent. of the available accommodation. This would give an average for the whole year of 321,868 children. At September, 1884, the salaries of adult teachers amounted to £614,000. As the average attendance was 272,802, this gave an average cost of £2 5s. 1d. per child. This was a large increase upon the estimated cost of £2 1s. 4d. for the current year. Some of this increase was undoubtedly due to the abnormal decrease of 2,532 in the number of children in average attendance, which was 272,802 at September, 1884, as against 275,330 at March, 1880. Most of the increased cost was due to the employment of a larger teaching staff in proportion to the number of children taught. After taking these circumstances into consideration, the Finance Committee considered, and the School Management Committee unanimously agreed, that the rate of cost per child might safely be taken at £2 4s. for the coming year. To £2 4s., the cost per child on account of the salaries of adult teachers, must be added 2s. 4d. per child on account of the salaries of pupil teachers, and 10d. per child on account of the instruction of pupil teachers; and 14s. 2d. per child on account of books, school furniture, rates, fuel, repairs, and sundries. The total cost per child under all these heads would, therefore, amount to £3 1s. 4d. To this amount had yet to be added the increased cost of maintenance, owing to the new pupil teachers' scheme. To a sub-committee of the School Management Committee had been submitted recommendations as to the staff to be allowed in each school. This return was revised in January, and was now before the School Management Committee. The inspectors proposed to substitute for 4,180 assistants and ex-pupil-teachers, 4,142 assistants; to increase the staff of senior pupil-teachers by 716, and the staff of junior pupil-teachers by 570. This represented an additional expenditure of about £28,000. It would be practically impossible, however, to obtain at once the staff of senior pupil-teachers, and each senior pupil-teacher would have to be represented by an assistant. The annual cost of a senior pupil-teacher was £28. The school pence showed a falling off of 3d. per child, which was largely owing to the very unsatisfactory condition in which the whole matter of enforcing the payment of school pence now stood. The estimated net cost of educating each child which was chargeable to the rates amounted to £1 18s. 8d. per child, or an estimated increase of 6s. per child upon the estimate of the current year. He regretted this large increase, but the time to complain effectually was when expenditure was proposed, and not when the bill was presented for payment. He would rejoice if the School Management Committee reduced their total expenditure, but until they began to do this it was not competent for the Finance Committee to present a reduced estimate. The sums he had named, together with £2,500 for legal expenses, £750 for stamp duties, and £15,000 for contingencies, less a balance of £13,738, amounted to £1,106,138, for which a precept must be issued upon the local authorities in order to discharge the estimated liabilities of the Board upon current expenditure for the year ending March, 1886. Mr. Diggle concluded by moving the reception of the report, which was agreed to *nem. con.* He next moved that, as it appears that £1,106,138 is required to meet the deficiency in the school fund in order to enable the Board to satisfy liabilities up to March, 1885, and estimated future liabilities up to March, 1886, it be referred to the Finance Committee to apportion the said amount so required to be raised amongst the different parts of the metropolis, and that precepts be sent to the rating authorities for the said parts of the metropolis respectively requiring them to pay in quarterly parts the apportioned amounts specified therein to the Treasurers of the Board.

The Rev. G. M. Murphy moved, as an amendment, the addition of the words, "And that, having regard to the increased rate and the probability of a still further increase in future years, the proper committees be instructed to prepare and submit to the Board a memorial to the Government and a petition to Parliament asking a readjustment of the legally and illegally perverted educational endowments of the metropolitan area; that a fair proportion of these large and ever-increasing revenues may be available for the reduction of this or future educational rates; and that such petition and memorial embody a clause requesting that the incidence of taxation may be so altered as to ensure that the landed property and ecclesiastical revenues of the metropolis may share the burden of the educational expenditure."

The Chairman ruled the amendment out of order, but said it would be in order as an independent motion.

Mr. Murphy intimated that he would bring it up as an independent motion, and the amendment was withdrawn.

Mr. Lyulph Stanley, M.P., moved as an amendment that the amount of the precept be reduced by £60,000, the estimate on account of the expenditure for school maintenance being excessive.

A long discussion followed, in which most of the members present took part. The proposed addition to the education rate met with a large amount of opposition. Before Mr. Stanley's amendment was disposed of, the debate was adjourned.

After several amendments had been unsuccessfully moved, the Board agreed to authorise the Finance Committee to request the Metropolitan Board of Works to insert in their Parliamentary Money Bill £250,000, and a further amount which may be required during the year ending December, 1885, and £600,000 for the year ending December, 1886. The Board transacted some routine business, and adjourned.

The King Charles I. Scholarship at Pembroke College, Oxford, confined to candidates who have been educated for two out of the three years preceding either at Elizabeth College, Guernsey, or Victoria College, Jersey, has been awarded to Mr. Sladen. The Abingdon Scholarship was awarded to Mr. Evans, from Abingdon School.

At a meeting of the Hebdomadal Council yesterday, Sir W. J. Herschel was duly elected a curator of the Indian Institute. The University preachers at St. Mary's on Sunday will be—morning, Canon Ince, Christ Church, Regius Professor of Divinity; afternoon, Rev. F. Jourdain, Pembroke.

Lord Reay, the Governor-elect of Bombay, was last week installed as Lord Rector of St. Andrew's University. The ceremony drew to the ancient city the most distinguished assembly which has been present upon such an occasion at St. Andrews. Previous to the installation the Senatus of the University conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. upon the following: Lord Reay, the Marquis of Lorne, the Earl of Elgin, the Earl of Dalhousie, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl of Rosebery, the Hon. G. Waldegrave Leslie, the Right Hon. Sir Richard Cross, Sir George Young, President of London University; Mr. Robert Anstruther Dalyell, Vice-President of the Indian Council; the Rev. Alex. Stewart, Ballachulish; Dr. John Duncan, Edinburgh; Dr. William S. Playfair, Principal Peterson, Dundee University; Mr. W. L. Courtney, Fellow of New College, Oxford; Professor Ray Lankester, Mr. Arthur James Balfour, M.P., Mr. William J. H. Lecky, London; Mr. John B. Balfour, Lord Advocate; Mr. James A. Campbell, M.P., Mr. Andrew Lang, late Fellow of Merton College, Oxford. Degrees of D.D. were also conferred upon the Right Rev. Charles Wordsworth, Bishop of St. Andrew's; the Right Rev. Frederick Temple, Bishop of Exeter, Bishop-designate of London; the Rev. Henry Allon, Islington; the Rev. J. D. Geden, Professor of Hebrew, Didsbury College; and the Rev. Emilie Comba, Professor in the Waldensian College, Florence. Most of the above noblemen and gentlemen were present. Lord Reay's rectorial address referred exclusively to the question of University reform. He urged the Scottish Universities to aim at a high standard of teaching, and especially to equip themselves with scientific appliances. They ought also to throw open their Divinity chairs to the best men. Lord Rosebery, after complimenting Lord Reay upon his address, remarked that he thought his Lordship placed too much importance upon State aid as a necessary element in the development of Scotch education. With or without aid from the Treasury, education and the Scotch people would not be kept apart. A *conversazione* was held in the afternoon, at which Lord Reay and Lord Dalhousie briefly addressed the students.

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs, members of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters, and members of the West Ham School Board, last week opened the new Board schools in Carpenter's-road, Stratford. The Lord Mayor said he was very glad to learn that the education given in the schools of the West Ham Board was likely to continue to be of an elementary and practical character. They might over-educate a child, just as they might over-dress him. They might unfit him for the station in which he was placed; and he considered that if he was a poor working man of that district he should be very sorry to see his child educated beyond his position. To a child who was to take a practical and perhaps a subordinate part in life, a number of accomplishments beyond sound elementary education would, he was afraid, be the reverse of a benefit. Instead of some subjects that would be taught, such as the elements of natural philosophy and physical science, he should very much like to see established a few little elementary workshops, where children could be taught certain trades. This would be of the utmost value to the children on leaving the schools. Girls, too, might be prepared for those domestic duties which were sure to fall upon them in after life. The Lord Mayor handed the keys to Mr. Martin, the Chairman of Managers for the district, and declared the school to be open, wishing it every success. In responding to a vote of thanks, the Lord Mayor added that he differed from the opinions of some of his friends, who held extreme views of education. But, in his opinion, life was something like a great saw-pit—there must be top-sawyers and bottom-sawyers. If all tried to be top-sawyers there would be confusion, and the bottom-sawyers would be thrown out as well as the others. Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Whitehead said they had just learned that the School Board rate for London would be 10d. in the pound. That was certainly heavy; but it was light in comparison with what the Americans paid for their education. The English people had every reason to be grateful to their administrators of education for giving them so much as they did for such small cost. (Hear, hear.) Personally he would cheerfully pay a higher rate to secure what he desired. (Applause.) The ceremony closed with the National Anthem.

The Examiner for the London School Board scholarships sends to the *Journal of Education* the following notes of answers:—1. By what right does the Queen sit on the throne? (*a*) Because Prince Albert married her, and she was the daughter of the late King and granddaughter of Rollo the Sea King; (*b*) she was the only daughter of Edward VI., who was her father, son of Edward V.; (*c*) she won a great battle. 2. Explain the meaning of the Executive, manhood suffrage, and protective duties. The Executive was the man who was appointed to the duty of hanging a person, or otherwise executing him. Manhood suffrage is the state of suffering to which all mankind are born. The protective duty was the duty of a man to protect another person from receiving harm of any kind. 3. Cromwell was the brother of Lord Wolseley. Prince Rupert was a celebrated experimental chemist. Thomas Wyatt was the man who helped to invent locomotive engines. Washington invented steam-engines; he was a great phylosipher. Warren Hastings was a Viking; he landed in England and tried to take it, but was defeated. Lord Nelson was a brave man who fought in the Battle of Waterloo. Washington fought with Nelson in the Battle of Waterloo, and took his place when he was killed. Nelson's last words were, "Do not throw me overboard unless the King wishes to." Lord Palmerston lived in the reign of William I., and was the chief of the feudal system. 4. An alderman is (*a*) a man who keeps turtles; (*b*) a man who cuts down alders; (*c*) a man who feeds on the people. (N.B.—The above is a Radical answer.) A Conservative is a man who looks down on Liberals; a Liberal is a man who spends the people's money freely. Mr. Gladstone is a Liberal and head of the House of Commons; Lord Beaconsfield is a Conservative and head of the House of Lords. An antiquary is an enemy of fishes (Latin *anti*, against, and *aqua*, water). 5. Explain "All the world's a stage."—The world is a flat surface, like a stage for people to walk on. The seasons are caused by the sun going round the moon. 6. Explain "the child is father of the man."—(*a*) The law is such that the father can't do nothing to his own boy; (*b*) everyone knows, or nearly everyone, that Adam is our common parent, but he couldn't have been such if he had not been a child first, though we're not told so in the Bible. 7. An essay on "Your favourite author."—I cannot say which I like best out of Shakespeare or Longfellow; *As You Like It* enchants me, but "Excelsior" is supreme.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice and the members of the Royal Household attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday morning. The Dean of Windsor officiated. Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg lunched with Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice are expected to leave the Isle of Wight about the 14th inst. for Windsor Castle.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, were present at Divine service. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), the Duke of Edinburgh, and the Duke of Cambridge visited the Prince and Princess of Wales, and remained to luncheon. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George returned to Trinity College, Cambridge, and to the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, respectively. The Prince of Wales, attended by Captain Stephenson, R.N., and Mr. Knollys, left London for Cannes *viâ* Paris, which he reached about 5.30 on Monday morning.

On Monday morning the Prince of Wales arrived, and exchanged calls with M. Grévy.

On Tuesday evening the Prince of Wales left for Cannes, where he arrived at three o'clock in the afternoon, and was received by the Prince and Princess of Saxe-Meiningen. His Royal Highness will remain at Cannes until the 17th inst., returning to London on the 19th inst.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Prince Albert Victor on Saturday opened and inspected the Whittington Boys' Club, in Leman-street, Whitechapel. His Royal Highness, whose presence aroused much enthusiasm, delivered a short but excellent address to the boys. Lord Sudeley said this was the first institution the Prince had visited since he had come of age.

Accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, the Princess Louise went to Hackney on Thursday and opened a bazaar at the Manor-rooms in aid of the building fund of the new mission-house and schools for St. Barnabas, Homerton.

Mrs. Blair, wife of Captain Blair, Ashwell Hall, near Melton Mowbray, while hunting with the Cottesmore hounds on Tuesday, met with a serious accident, which it is feared, may have a fatal result.

Saturday, February 14, has been appointed for the private view of the Spring Exhibition of the Nine-

teenth Century Art Society, at the Conduit-street Galleries, and the Exhibition will be open to the public on Monday, the 16th.

A meeting in aid of Miss Leigh's mission homes for young English and American women and orphans in Paris was held on Tuesday in the Mayor's Parlour of the Manchester Townhall. The Bishop of Manchester presided. Miss Leigh addressed the meeting, and asked the people of Manchester to enable her to wipe off a deficit of £1,217. A resolution commending the work to public support was adopted. Some conversation took place on the subject of marriages in England between Frenchmen and Englishwomen. It was pointed out that if the conditions of the French Marriage Law were not complied with the marriage was void in France, and that this often led to great hardship and injustice being inflicted upon the wife. The Bishop gave it as his personal opinion that an English clergyman would be entitled to ask a Frenchman who desired to marry an Englishwoman to show that he had fulfilled the conditions of the Marriage Law of France. Memorials on the subject to the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary, and the Home Secretary were adopted.

We regret to announce the death of Sir Robert J. Phillimore, late Judge of the High Court of Admiralty, which took place at noon on Wednesday. The Right Hon. Sir Robert Joseph Phillimore was born in November, 1810, and was educated at Westminster School and at Christ Church, Oxford. He was the second son of Dr. Joseph Phillimore, who was a celebrated ecclesiastical lawyer. The late Dr. Phillimore was for three years a clerk in the Board of Control. Subsequently he was created a D.C.L. of Oxford, and was admitted an advocate at Doctors'-commons. He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple, and in due course was created a Q.C. In 1840 he was appointed official to the Archdeaconries of Middlesex and London, and Chancellor of the diocese of Chichester by Bishop Gilbert in 1844, and Chancellor of Salisbury in 1845. From 1853 to 1857 he sat in the House of Commons as member for Tavistock as a Liberal-Conservative, in which assembly he was noted for the remarkable speeches he made on the subject of Church rates and tithe commutation. In 1855 he was appointed Judge of the Cinque Ports, and Her Majesty's Advocate-General in Admiralty in 1862, when he received the honour of knighthood. He was also made Judge of the High Court of Admiralty and the Arches Court of Canterbury in 1867, on which occasion he was sworn in a member of the Privy Council. He was appointed Master of Faculties in 1873, but two years later he resigned all these appointments on being nominated Judge of the Admiralty and Probate Division of the High Court of Justice. He was created a baronet in 1881, and retired from the Bench in 1883. He was the author of many legal works, including *Commentaries upon International Law*, published in 1861. In 1844 he married a daughter of the late Mr. John Denison, of Ossington Hall, Newark, a sister of the late Lord Ossington and of the late Sir William Denison, K.C.B., and also of the late Bishop of Salisbury. He is succeeded in the baronetcy by his eldest son, Dr. Walter G. F. Phillimore, who for several years has enjoyed a large practice in the Admiralty and Probate Division of the High Court of Justice.

The Rev. H. M. Kennedy, M.A., vicar of Plumpton Wall, diocese of Carlisle, has issued an appeal to his fellow-Irish in Great Britain, in which, after expressing his agreement with the views of the Irish National Land League (of the English executive committee of which he was formerly a member) in relation to the land and Dublin Castle, and speaking in favour of local self-government for Ireland, he says:—"Beyond such reasonable demands it is astonishing to me that any disinterested, sober-minded Irishman can think it at all desirable to go. Much allowance, undoubtedly, has to be made for burning memories, many insults, and grievous wrongs; but still, a question involving the temporal comforts of millions (and if you will pardon one not of your creed for saying so—the future state of not a few) ought to be determined by what is lawfully feasible in the enlightened present, and not be thwarted by an unprofitable and unholy wish to retaliate for the dark and selfish past. A separation of the islands is impossible. Were it otherwise, and accomplished, the result would be disastrous alike to those east and west of the Irish Sea. Under just laws in union lies our strength. The Scotch, as far as they are concerned, know well the advantages of complete accord, and the people of Scotland have certainly as much right to the luxury of pride as we. At all events, let me in conclusion say that, so long as we reside in Great Britain, are protected by its powers, benefited by its commerce, and contribute to its taxation, it is utterly immoral and humiliatingly foolish for any of us in any degree to tolerate opinions, and still more overt and diabolical acts, hostile to the Empire as a whole and consequently to each integral part thereof."

A meeting of the general committee and subscribers to the British School of Archæology at Athens was held on Monday at 22, Albemarle-street, the Bishop of Durham in the chair. The report of the executive committee stated that a site at Athens had been granted by the Greek Government and accepted by the committee, and that a sum of more than £4,000 had been raised, which was considered more than sufficient to build a suitable house for the school. It was now necessary to raise a further sum to provide a salary for the director, and to meet the other working expenses of such a school. In moving the adoption of this report the Bishop of Durham said that no country had been more closely allied with Greece politically than England; none showed more of the spirit of the adventurer and explorer; none gave a more prominent place to Greek studies in its system of higher education; no country was so wealthy. And now the grant of the Greek Government—which was not only a relief to our finance, but an assurance of hearty welcome—must not remain a day longer a dead letter. In spite of increasing interest in archæology at the universities and elsewhere, there was still need of such a school at Athens, to connect us with the heart of Hellenic study, that its life-blood may flow through our veins. The practicability of the building being assured, there remained the need of an endowment of about £600 a year, or a further capital of about £15,000. Here was an opportunity for some generous millionaire not only to confer a great benefit upon literature, but to connect his name with an institution that might be expected to last for generations. The motion was seconded by the Provost of Eton and carried unanimously. The confirmation of the present general and executive committees was moved by Mr. Vaux and seconded by Mr. Argyropoulos, the Greek Chargé d'Affaires, who, on behalf of his countrymen, expressed the greatest sympathy with the scheme, the completion of which, he said, was looked forward to in Greece with the keenest interest. The third resolution, which laid down the lines upon which the school should work, was moved by Professor C. T. Newton and seconded by Sir F. Pollock. Professor R. C. Jebb moved a resolution authorising the executive committee to expend some part of the subscribed funds upon building. Mr. Charles Waring seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Penrose then laid before the meeting some sketch plans which he had prepared of the proposed house, and stated that in his opinion it could be built for about £3,000. Mr. F. Clare Ford, late Minister at Athens, spoke strongly in favour of building immediately. Mr. H. F. Tozer moved, and Professor Sidney Colvin seconded, a resolution in favour of a formal appeal for aid to the universities and other public bodies. This was also carried unanimously, and a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. Bond, of the British Museum, and seconded by Mr. Walter Leaf, closed the proceedings.

Mr. George Smith, of Coalville, writes to a contemporary that a few weeks ago he came across two tumble-down vans, in which moving abodes were three men, two women, and twelve children. Nearly all these English gipsy children were of school age, but not one could tell a letter. Two of the men and one woman could read a little. How they slept and where they slept on the cold wintry nights is a subject for imagination. A few weeks before Christmas he tramped thirteen miles to a village feast and found eight vans and tents, the dwellers of which numbered twenty-four adults of both sexes and thirty children. He was told that the whole lot, bag and baggage, were not worth £10. So far as he could make out only four of the adults could read a little, and not one of the poor children could spell its own name. Mr. Smith adds: "It is to be hoped that the free education and welfare of 30,000 van and gipsy children will not be overlooked in the Parliamentary commotion that is soon to be at work. They stand in as much need of moral and social elevation as the children in Africa and at the antipodes do, and should at any rate have an equal share of attention and help given to them." Mr. Gladstone has thanked Mr. Smith for the two soul-stirring songs, "Gipsy Jim Called Home" and "Come, Rescue the Gipsy Children," the authors of which have handed Mr. Smith the copyright to help him in his efforts to improve the condition of the gipsy and van children.

The last three Blue-books which complete the report of the City Guilds Commission will, says the *Charity Record*, contain the charitable accounts of the Companies. The reports upon them of Mr. Hare and his colleagues to the Charity Commissioners—dated from 1860 to 1865, but generally continued until 1877 or 1878—fill two of the new volumes, and deal with a trust income of about £200,000 a year. The application of this income is on an average—to education, £75,000; relief of poor members, £75,000; and miscellaneous charitable objects, £50,000 annually. To these sums are added from corporate income—education, about £10,000; relief of poor members, £30,000; and general charity, £70,000 a year; while perhaps about £10,000 is spent from the same source in the support of churches of all denominations and schools in Ulster.

The man Cunningham, who is charged with causing the explosion at the Tower, was re-examined at Bow-street on Monday. It was shown that he arrived at Liverpool in November from the United States, and came to London on Christmas Eve, when he conveyed an American trunk and a bag to lodgings which he had taken in Great Prescot-street, Whitechapel. On January 14 he left those lodgings for others in the same district, and between the two lodgings the trunk disappeared, and the police have not been able to trace it. When he was apprehended at the Tower, Gilbert gave an account of himself which was shown to be untrue, and he denied having possessed a trunk. The police, on examining his wearing apparel at his lodgings, shook out of some socks a charged detonator, such as is only used for exploding dynamite. Mr. Poland, who conducted the prosecution, said the prisoner might be charged under an Act of George III., which constitutes an attempt to explode any of Her Majesty's armouries the crime of high treason, punishable with death. The prisoner was remanded for a week. On Tuesday an important arrest and discovery were made by the police. Inspectors Jarvis and Abberline, acting on information received, proceeded shortly after five o'clock to a house in Whitechapel, and took into custody a man whose name has not transpired, but who is believed to be an accomplice of the prisoner Cunningham, at present under remand. In the man's possession was found a brown box, heavily weighted, which, there is little doubt, is the box that, according to the evidence given before the magistrates, was removed from Cunningham's lodgings. The police regard the arrest as of great importance, and inquiries have been actively made, with the result, it is understood, that further evidence in the case has been obtained. The prisoner was brought up at Bow-street on Thursday and remanded.

The annual festival on behalf of the Earlswood Asylum will be held at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, on Tuesday, March 3. The Solicitor-General, Sir Farrer Herschell, Q.C., M.A., will preside on the occasion.

The annual meeting of the governors of the Royal Free Hospital was held on Thursday at the hospital, Gray's-inn-road; Mr. James Hopgood in the chair. In the 57th annual report, which was read by Mr. J. S. Blyth, secretary, the Management Committee congratulated the governors on the very satisfactory general position of the hospital, notwithstanding the prevalent commercial depression. The income received from legacies had been well maintained, and a number of unusually large donations, many of which were given at the festival dinner, had been received. The receipts from allowances amounted to £15,772 11s. 9d. The total ordinary expenditure for the past year amounted to £11,254 16s. 10d. The report stated that the thanks of the committee were eminently due to the members of the medical staff, of whose skill and kindness to the patients it was impossible to speak too highly; and to the drug committee, the house visitors, and the weekly board for their constant and careful supervision of the general management of the hospital. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the financial position of the hospital was in a most prosperous condition. Mr. E. Marsden seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to; as was also a motion according a vote of thanks to the committee of management, the treasurer (Mr. Marsden), the honorary medical officers, and the officers generally, for their services in connection with the hospital. The proceedings then concluded.

A writer in the current number of the *Edinburgh Review* extracts from the papers and correspondence of the Imperial Family, which were seized at the Tuileries on the overthrow of the Empire, and afterwards published by Government Commission, some startling revelations as to the cost of the Empire to France. The papers were published in 1870, but at the time appear to have attracted no attention; and the rarity of the volume, the writer says, would tend to confirm the supposition that those most compromised by the papers had endeavoured to collect and destroy them. The third document printed in the collection is a fac-simile receipt, dated Elysée National, April 26, 1851, and signed "Louis-Napoléon Bonaparte," acknowledging a loan of 500,000f. from Marshal Narvaez, then chief of the Spanish Ministry; a loan repaid on the 2nd of June, 1852. Noting the applications for appointments and assistance made to the Emperor, the writer remarks that it is not only from poor little subjects of the gentler sex that the cry, "Give, give," echoes through the Imperial correspondence.

"Not that the ladies had by any means less than their fair share of the bounty. A 'note of the sums paid by the Emperor to Miss Howard' (created Comtesse de Beauregard), between March 24, 1853, and January 1, 1855, amounts to 5,449,000f. On July 24 following, however, we find a letter from this lady to an unnamed friend (probably Mocquard), which she begs him to burn, complaining of the non-fulfilment of engagements towards her, and apparently wanting 2,500,000f. more. A brief *note sans date* runs:—'There has been sent into Spain to Mdme. the Comtesse de Montijo, by the means of MM. de Rothschild, (1) on the 4th of February, 600,000f.; (2) on the 2nd of April, 89,739f.; (3) on the 27th of May (Mocquard), 668,421f. The Empress had regularly 100,000f. per month.' 'After official figures which the Civil List Commission has furnished us,' say the Commission for the publication of the correspondence, 'the balance-sheet of the Imperial munificence may be thus stated for the whole reign:—Allocations, subventions, and pensions, 19,877,374f.; gifts, succours, and indemnities, 28,881,895f.; encouragement to art, science, literature, 2,566,941f.' To this total of a little over two millions sterling have to be added, 'Various allocations on the privy purse, a special fund which the Emperor reserved for his personal use. Under this head was annually distributed about a million of francs by the hands of M. Ch. Thelin, Keeper of the Privy Purse. Account should also be taken of certain expenses met, at least in 1863, under the Minister Persigny, by the Department of the Interior, of which we have found some traces in the papers submitted to our examination, under the title of 'Political Fund.' At 300,000f. a year for this, we obtain a total of about three millions, and adding the different items together we arrive at a general total of 74,306,211f. 80c., or remaining within the limits of the Civil List, 70 or 71 millions; a sum equal to that which we have previously attributed, on vouchers, to the Imperial Family."

As to this, we are told in a "note on the expenses of the Civil List of Napoleon III. from 1853 to 1870":—

"It is easy to form a rough estimate of the money pocketed, since 1852, by the Bonaparte family. It is enough to add to the dotations paid for some of its members the regular allocations of which the Commission has already published the table, of which the annual total varies from 1,200,000f. to 1,400,000f. This subvention commenced on the 25th of December, 1852, and only closed with the Empire. Account must also be taken of a capital of 5,200,000fr. distributed, by decree of the 1st of April, 1852, to a certain number of favoured relatives. Without speaking of gratifications, debts paid, and other liberalities, of which the detail will follow, the general account of the Imperial Family is as follows, according to the official tables of the Civil List:—Dotations (1860-1870), 16,849,999f.; dotations of the Palais Royal and of Meudon (1857-1870), 4,953,639f.; allocations (1853-1870), 30,033,531f.; divers expenses, 1,758,116f.; general total, 53,595,285f. If we add to the sum the capital given, 5,200,000f., we find more than 58,000,000f. absorbed, without any utility for the country, by the family of those who have led us to Leipzig, to Waterloo, and Sedan."

Fifty-eight million francs, however respectable an item as it may be considered, is far from exhausting the debit side of the account opened with France for the "Imperial Family" on the 2nd of December, 1852. The fixed and regular resources of which the head of that family disposed from that date to the 4th of September, 1870, comprised (1) the dotations of the Civil List, 25,000,000f.; (2) the dotations of the Imperial Family, 1,500,000f.; (3) dotations of the Palais Royal and of Meudon, 350,000f.; (4) dotations, moveable and fixed, of the Crown, from 4,000,000f. to 8,000,000f. On the average, the receipts of the Civil List constantly exceeded the sum of 32,000,000f. annually, which hardly covered the expenses of the Court and of the great officers of the Crown. The final "recapitulation" arrived at by the Commision runs thus:—

"So, without keeping count of certain hundreds of thousands of francs annually pocketed for an unknown number of years, the balance-sheet of the Bonaparte family is as follows:—Jérôme Bonaparte (4 persons), 37,078,364f.; Baciocchi family (1 person), 6,244,626f.; Lucien Bonaparte (22 persons), 12,762,500f. Murat family (12 persons), 13,577,933f.; Mdmes. B. Centamori and Bartholini (2 persons), 524,375f.; general total, 70,187,796f."

This sum, amounting to upwards of £2,800,000 sterling, was paid by the French nation to the Bonaparte family, without any utility to France, on the ground of relationship to the Chief of the State.

Anyone afflicted with stammering or stuttering should read a little book (written by a gentleman who cured himself after suffering for more than thirty years), to be had from the Author, Mr. B. Beasley, Green Bank House, Hall Green, near Birmingnam, for 13 stamps.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets, labelled—"JAMES EPPS and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

Messrs. Mayer and Co., of Munich, and 149, New Bond-street, London, solicit a visit to their showrooms, where they have always on view stained-glass windows and other objects of ecclesiastical art, executed for almost any part of the kingdom. Messrs. Mayer and Co. will have great pleasure in submitting designs and estimates for any window in contemplation, free of al charge.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. Filters professing to remove lime effectually are fallacy, as no filter yet invented will do so permanently, and al filters in which sponge is introduced are on the old system, for using which with the idea of removing organic matter (that usually productive of disease) the public were cautioned against, as being of no avail, in the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council; and this caution is the more necessary as these filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY PATENTED FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest animal charcoal, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Jan. 31 was—medical 989, surgical 658; total 1,647, of which 824 were new cases.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 23, at Palgrave Rectory, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. ERNEST LLOYD SAVORY, of a son.

Jan. 29, at Hounslow, the wife of the Rev. ALBERT WRIOTHESLEY PHILIP ALLAN, of a daughter.

Jan. 30, at The Crescent, Castle Bellingham, Ireland, the wife of the Rev. FRANK THORNHILL, of a son.

Jan. 30, at St Paul's Vicarage, Peterborough, the wife of the Rev. C. R. BALL, of a daughter.

Jan. 30, at Batcombe Rectory, Evercreech, Bath, the wife of the Rev. WALTER C. BAKER, of a daughter.

Jan. 30, at Lodmoor House, Weymouth, the wife of the Rev. F. T. HARRISON, of a son.

Jan. 30, at Ingleside, Reading, the wife of the Rev. C. W. H. KENRICK, Vicar of St. George, Ticehurst, of a daughter.

Jan. 30, at Egerton Vicarage, Kent, the wife of the Rev. F. R. MERCER, of a son.

Jan. 31, the LADY CLEMENTINE MITFORD, of a son.

Jan. 31, at Gorwell House, Barnstaple, the wife of the Rev. T. P. DIMOND-HOGG, of a daughter.

Jan. 31, at Southwick Parsonage, Hants, the wife of the Rev. W. SHIRLEY, of a son.

Feb. 1, at 77, Eaton-square, the Lady POLTIMORE, of a son.

Feb. 1, at The Grange, Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex, the wife of Captain Sir WILLIAM WISEMAN, Bart., Royal Navy, of a son and heir.

Feb. 1, at Greystoke Rectory, the wife of the Rev. E. A. ASKEW, of a daughter.

Feb. 2, at Fosdyke Vicarage, Lincolnshire, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD SINGLETON, of a son, stillborn.

Feb. 3, at 49, Clarendon-avenue, Leamington, the wife of the Rev. HERBERT SUMNER ACWORTH, M.A., Vicar of Chobham, Surrey, of a son.

Feb. 3, at 18, Kersley-street, Battersea, the wife of the Rev. EDWIN HAMMONDS, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 28, at St. James's Church, Shirley, Southampton, the Rev. G. ARTHUR SOWTER, M.A., Curate of Shirley, to AGNES MARY, second daughter of W. P. CLARIDGE, of Loughborough.

Jan. 29, at the parish church, Beeston, Notts, ROBERT, only son of the late Sir ROBERT BOAG, J.P., Belfast, to ELIZA HANNAH, only daughter of WILLIAM KIRKLAND, The Grange, Beeston, Notts.

Jan. 29, at Lancing, FREDK. WM. MANSON, of Wellfield, Muswell-hill, youngest son of Wm. Pitt Manson, Barrister-at-law, to ROSE GERTRUDE, third daughter of the Rev. JOHN BAX MARRIOTT, B.A., former Rector of Ilseu, Suffolk, and granddaughter of Captain Claxton, R.N.

Feb. 3, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Paddington, the Rev. B. W. WRIGHT, Vicar of Norton Cuckney, to BARBARA, daughter of the late THOMAS WALKER, of Castle-hill, Maryport, Cumberland.

Feb. 3, at the parish church, Chingford, the Rev. CHARLES EDWARD BARNES, Curate of Horringer, Suffolk, to ALICE, eldest daughter of W. WALKER, of Whitehall, Chingford, Essex.

Feb. 3, at Hove Parish Church, Viscount TORRINGTON, to EMMELINE ST. MAUR, third daughter of the Rev. HENRY SEYMOUR, Rector of Holme Pierrepont, Notts.

Feb. 3, at Stoke Damerel, Devon, CHARLES JAMES, youngest son of the late Canon BROWN, Rector of Woolwich, to FLORENCE ANNA, younger daughter of THOMAS H. GILL, Solicitor, Devonport.

Feb. 4, at the parish church of Little Saling, Essex, WM. D. SMYTH, M.D., Staff Surgeon R.N., to CECILIA, daughter of the Rev. R. S. DOBSON, Vicar of Little Saling.

DEATHS.

Nov. 30, 1884, at Porto Vecchio, Corsica, THOMAS, second son of the Rev. Canon BUTLER, of Lincoln, and of Wilderhope House, Shrewsbury.

Jan. 30, at York-place, London-road, Worcester, SARAH ANNE ROBERTS, formerly of Coleshill, aged 81 years.

Jan. 30, at Florence, Admiral Sir CORNWALLIS RICKETTS, Bart, in his 82nd year.

Jan. 30, at Kingham Rectory, Oxon, ALICIA LOCKWOOD, aged 72.

Jan. 31, at Datchet House, Bucks, in her 87th year, the Lady ALICIA MARY BRISTOWE, sixth daughter of Francis Jack, first Earl of Kilmorey, and widow of the late Samuel Ellis Bristowe, Esq., of Beesthorpe, Notts.

Feb. 1, at Suckley Rectory, Worcestershire, CATHERINE ELLEN, youngest child of the Rev. RICHARD NATHANIEL and MARY EVANS KANE, aged seven months.

Feb. 1, at Watford, Herts, aged 54, EMMA ANN, widow of the late Rev. WILLIAM WAHAB CAZALET.

Feb. 2, at the Vicarage, Bromley, Middlesex, AMY CORISANDE, third child of the Rev. G. A. M. HOW, Vicar of Bromley, aged four years and seven months.

LATEST NEWS.

Cairo, Feb. 6.

Further details received here of the occupation of Beilul state that the Italians disarmed the Egyptian troops and embarked them on an Italian steamer for Massowah, returning them their arms on board. The Italian commander handed a written declaration to the Egyptian commander acknowledging the latter's protest against the occupation.

St. Paul de Loanda, Jan. 15.

The Portuguese now occupy the mouth of the Congo. They have four war vessels there at present. The Dutch and other houses established in the vicinity have protested against the action of Portugal. Her Majesty's gunboat *Forward* and corvette *Rapid* are also off the coast.

Pesth, Feb. 6.

The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet to-day passed the Estimates for 1885 by 229 against 140 votes.

Gibraltar, Feb. 4.

The Catholic Vicar-General has been murdered in the sacristy of the Cathedral by a butcher, who is supposed to be insane.

Up to the hour of going to press no intelligenee respecting General Gordon had been received at the War Office.

The Central News states, on high authority, that Ministers have been called together to consider a telegraphic despatch from Lord Wolseley, asking for instructions under the altered aspect of affairs. Lord Wolseley, the Central News is informed, points out that he could not reach Khartoum under five weeks, when the hot season would have commenced. He assures the Government that he could still attack Khartoum and defeat the Mahdi, but the operation now would be difficult, not to say hazardous. His Lordship expresses his intention of concentrating all his forces, unless the Government direct him to continue operations against the Mahdi. There is no fear entertained for the safety of the British force. General Earle has been directed to cease his advance, pending further instructions. General Buller has been ordered not to attack Metammeh, which he intended doing, unless further advised.

A Cabinet Council was held yesterday (Friday) morning at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury. The Council separated at two o'clock. After the Cabinet Council broke up, considerable activity was observable in the movements of those engaged at the War Office and the Admiralty, and it is generally believed that the plan of action in the Soudan has been settled.

It is rumoured that the force at Souakim, which is now 1,800 strong, will be so reinforced as to be able to undertake any movement Lord Wolseley may consider necessary.

An Exchange Company's telegram says:—Very alarming rumours prevail in the West-end clubs as to the fate of Gordon, who, it is stated, was killed some two months ago, when, it is alleged, Khartoum fell. It is a singular fact that the date would correspond with the period when there were similar rumours prevailing as to the fate of Khartoum and Gordon in the bazaars of Cairo.

Sir Charles Dilke, speaking at a meeting on Thursday night in the Queen's Park Hall, Harrow-road, said:—

"Nothing, in my opinion, but the treachery on the part of some of his fellow-defenders of Khartoum which is alluded to in the despatches which have appeared in the newspapers to-day, can account for the fall of Khartoum. It is clear that Gordon's pluck, Gordon's energy, and Gordon's determination have not failed; but that the town has been opened to the besieging forces by the treachery of some of those who had taken part in its defence. Against treachery of that kind it was impossible for that man, even with his indomitable determination, to work and fight. He had been exposed to treachery on one former occasion in the course of the defence of Khartoum. You will remember that two of his own generals turned against him, and tried to deliver over to his enemies a portion of the force employed to guard Khartoum. On that occasion the treachery was detected by General Gordon, and the revolt was put down by him; but on this occasion similar treachery appears to have succeeded but too well. The chairman has spoken of the great anxiety which the people of this country must feel as to the position of the forces which are between the Nile and Khartoum. I am happy to state that Lord Wolseley tells us that he has no anxiety on that score at all events, that the forces which are upon the Nile near Metammeh are in a very strong position, and, indeed, there is no occasion to have anxiety for them or for the post at Gakdul, or for his own forces; and that is news which, considering how accurate Lord Wolseley is in his statements with regard to matters of fact of this kind, will go far to relieve your anxiety on their account. The gravest and greatest anxiety of all remains, however, and that is the anxiety as to General Gordon's own personal fate. It is, in my opinion, premature for me to speak to you in detail as to the measures which will be necessary, in the first place, to obtain certainty as to the fate of that brave man, and in the second place, if he be still, as we all hope, alive, to rescue him from his captivity."

Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., who recently returned from the Soudan, writing to the Dublin papers on the fall of Khartoum, says:—

"The question now is how Stewart's command is to be saved. It would be almost impossible to overestimate the importance of the capture of Khartoum and the overthrow of General Gordon. The news will fly over Africa and Asia with marvellous speed, and every good Mussulman will see in the Mahdi's success a heavenly confirmation of his Divine mission. The wavering tribes in the desert will once more own his sway, and in every land where the followers of Mohammed are a power men will begin to sharpen their swords for the holy war. No defeat of modern times has been so fraught with danger to the British Empire. Forty millions of Moslems in India are watching the progress of events on the banks of the Nile, and another British disaster might provoke a rising that would shake the British empire to its foundation. One of the first effects of the Mahdi's victory will be seen in the desertion of the native drivers, and the refusal of the so-called friendly or neutral tribes to supply any more camels. Even the sanction of the Mudir of Dongola won't induce them to risk the future vengeance of the master of the Soudan. It will require all General Wolseley's good-fortune to pull him out of as perilous a position as any British General has stood in within this generation. It is noteworthy that no mention is made of the capture of Metammeh, or the retreat of the enemy from that position in General Wolseley's despatch. In all probability there will take place a concentration of the Arab forces both from the north and the south at Metammeh within a few days. Should this occur, the existence of the whole army would be imperilled."

SOCIETY.

The engagement is announced of the widowed Princess Henry of the Netherlands, eldest daughter of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia and sister of the Duchess of Connaught, to Prince Albert of Saxe-Altenburg, who is a general in the Russian service, commanding a brigade of cavalry at Warsaw.

The marriage of his Excellency Sir Edward Malet, Ambassador at Berlin, and the Lady Ermyntrude Russell, younger daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, is expected to take place the week after next, but the precise day is not yet fixed.

The marriage of Captain I. Walpole Follett, 4th (Queen's Own) Hussars, with Miss Diana Fountaine will take place on the 17th inst., at the Cathedral, Norwich.

The marriage between Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Robert Napier, eldest son of Lord Napier of Magdala, to the Hon. Mrs. Langham, eldest daughter of Godfrey, fourth Lord Macdonald, took place on the 27th ult. at St. Columba's Church, Portree, Isle of Skye.

A marriage is arranged between Captain Greenwood, 10th Hussars, second son of the late Mr. John Greenwood, of Swarcliffe, and Miss Margaret Dent, danghter of Mr. John Dent Dent, of Ribston Hall, Yorkshire.

Also between the Rev. W. A. Comyn Macfarlane, rector of Elmswell, Bury St. Edmunds, and Miss Florence Emily, eldest daughter of the Rev. Morris Fuller, rector of Ryburgh, Norfolk.

The marriage of Viscount Torrington and Miss Emmeline St. Maur Seymour, third daughter of the Rev. Henry Seymour, rector of Holme Pierrepont, Notts, took place in the parish church of Hove, Brighton, on Tuesday morning. Owing to the very recent death of Viscountess Torrington, aunt of the bridegroom, all those attending the ceremony were near relatives, and the proceedings were as quiet as possible. The wedding party assembled at half-past eleven, the bridegroom being attended by Colonel Wynne-Finch as best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Seymour, Miss Julia, Miss Madeline, and Miss Lilian Seymour, sisters of the bride. The Rev. Canon Chetwynd Stapylton, uncle of the bride, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Edward Adolphus Seymour, her brother. Soon after the ceremony Lord and Lady Torrington started for London, where they purpose to spend a few days before proceeding to Yotes Court, his Lordship's place near Maidstone.

The marriage of Captain James Otway Graham-Toler (2nd Battalion Highland Light Infantry), second son of the late Hon. Otway Graham-Toler, of Durrow Abbey, King's County, with Emily Alexina, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Lady Louisa Wardlaw-Ramsay, of Whitehill, Midlothian, was solemnised in St. Mary Abbotts Church, Kensington, on Tuesday. Owing to the recent death of the bride's uncle, Colonel Balcarres D. Wardlaw-Ramsay, the invitations were limited to the near relations of the bride and bridegroom. The bridegroom was attended by Captain G. S. Douglas (26th Cameronians), as best man; and the bridesmaids were Miss Alice Wardlaw-Ramsay, sister of the bride, the Misses Graham-Toler, sisters of the bridegroom, Misses Annie and Mabel Leslie Melville, nieces, and the Hon. Edith Waldegrave, cousin of the bride, and Miss Albinia Sulivan. The bride was conducted to the chancel by her brother, Mr. Wardlaw Ramsay, of Whitehill. The service was fully choral. The Dean of Edinburgh officiated, assisted by the Rev. R. T. West, vicar of St. Mary Magdalen's, Paddington. After the ceremony the wedding party proceeded to 27, Portman-square, the residence of the bride's aunt, Julia, Marchioness of Tweeddale, who entertained the company at breakfast. At half-past two o'clock the newly-married pair left for Bournemouth, where they will pass the honeymoon.

Viscount Sherbrooke was married on Tuesday morning, at St. Mathias Church, Torquay, to Miss Sneyd, of Calderwood House. The ceremony was strictly private, and took place at an early hour.

Captain Arnold Hyde Noel Urquhart Champion, 2nd Battalion Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Champion, C.B., 95th Regiment, was married on the 5th inst. at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, to Miss May Thwaites, elder daughter of the late Mr. William Thwaites. The officiating clergy were the Hon. and Rev. Robert Henley, M.A., vicar of St. Mary's, Putney, assisted by the Rev R. J. Woodhouse, M.A. The service was semi-choral. On account of the delicate health of the bridegroom's mother the wedding was a very quiet one. The newly-married couple left town in the afternoon for the Isle of Wight.

The fourth of the Prince's Cinderellas subscription dances held at the Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, on Wednesday last, and was well attended as usual—application for tickets on the last day having to be declined. With the best of music from Messrs. Coote and Tinney's band, and on an excellent floor, the dancing was vigorously continued till the clock struck twelve, when with Cinderella punctuality these dances finish. The programme, by the way, was copied from Prince Edward's coming of age ball programme, so that the dance music was very choice. Many of the lady patronesses attended the dances, and without an introduction from one of them, or from a steward, tickets cannot be obtained. A list may be had from Mr. J. S. Wood, at the Chelsea Hospital for Women, Fulham-road, for it is on behalf of this excellent charity that the popular Prince's Cinderellas are organised. The last two dances will take place on Feb. 11 and 15.

PRIMROSES v. ORCHIDS.

In a speech delivered by Sir Stafford Northcote on Tuesday, he referred to flowers as party badges, instancing the Wars of the Roses, and proceeded to observe that a few years ago people were comparatively indifferent to the charms of the primrose, but it had now become associated with a name which would carry it down to the latest posterity in English history. He connected it with the name of a man whose memory would be dear to us all. (Applause.) But it was rather difficult to know, when they had the primrose on one side, what was the flower that they ought to take as the emblem of the other side. (Laughter.) He had heard several flowers named as typical of Mr. Gladstone, but he confessed that he had never heard anything satisfactory, and he could only account for it by the fact that Mr. Gladstone preferred trees to flowers. (Laughter.) But, after all, there was a leader on the other side who had made the flower a very important element amongst them, and he was a man with whom they were likely to have more contests after Mr. Gladstone had retired from the field of labour—he meant Mr. Chamberlain. They knew what his flower was; it was an orchid, and it seemed to him (Sir Stafford) that the two parties would be the Party of the Primroses against the Party of the Orchids, and he thought if this was so they would not have much difficulty in deciding which they would go for. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) The orchid was a flower which, no doubt, was of high merit and value in certain senses, but it was one which was strange to our land. It was imported with difficulty. It had to be nursed with tenderness. It could not be exposed to the climate, or even to the sun, of England. It had to be sheltered in hothouses, maintained at a certain temperature, and kept from too much light, and they could hardly say that was the sort of flower that was going to win their hearts. But the primrose flowered everywhere in the country, flowering in the most disadvantageous and in the most discouraging situations. It was one that came in the very beginning of the spring, one that came just as the winter was passing away, which spread itself over every field, hedge, and lane, and one which was everywhere a type of fresh hope, fresh determination, fresh interest to men. (Cheers.) Would they allow him just to read some very pretty lines which he came across the other day with regard to the primrose on the rock, for it seemed to him they were lines which not inappropriately shadowed the position of the Conservative Party:—

Flowers still faithful to the stems
Their fellowship renew;
The stems are faithful to the root
That worketh out of view;
And to the rock the root adheres,
In every fibre true.

That he believed to be the true spirit of the Conservatives in this country. He believed they were faithful to the stems which connected them with the root. He believed they adhered to the British Constitution, from which the ripe flower was derived, and he believed that the British Constitution cleaved to the Rock of Truth as, in the poem from which he had read these lines, the primrose was represented to have done. (Prolonged cheering.)

LADY JOHN MANNERS ON READING ROOMS.

Lady John Manners contributes to the *Queen* the fifth of a series of papers on "Some of the Advantages of Easily Accessible Reading and Recreation Rooms." Her Ladyship says that everyone recognises the practical utility of a magnificent free library, like the one at Birmingham. In reality, the humblest village reading-room is, in its sphere, accomplishing a work of equal value. It is difficult for educated well-to-do persons to imagine the monotony of the existence led by agricultural labourers in villages and small hamlets. In summer they usually begin work about half-past six, and they leave off towards half-past five; in winter they cease at dusk. If the only place of recreation open to them in the village is the public-house, thither, of course, must those men repair who desire a little companionship from time to time. If the men are single, and live in lodgings, they feel the need of a change more than the married men, who, however, often find an hour or two out desirable.

The plan of opening the schoolrooms certainly offers many advantages, but great care should be taken to have the schoolrooms thoroughly ventilated before they are occupied as reading-rooms. It would be a wise precaution to leave the windows open during the night.

Village reading-rooms might well be modelled on soldiers' libraries. Mr. Chas. Manners thus describes them:—"The furniture is simple; there are barrack tables, with Windsor chairs, but there are many pictures and prints given by officers on leaving. The men play games—bagatelle, billiards, dominoes, draughts, &c.; and the whole is managed by a committee of officers and non-commissioned officers. A sergeant is appointed as librarian, and is put in charge. No alcoholic stimulants are allowed." The soldiers' libraries are extremely appreciated by the men, and are never empty. If large farmers could provide something of the kind for their labourers, it is believed great advantages would result both to masters and men.

After advocating the possession of books in workhouses, Lady John says:—"Some years ago we took a tour in the West Highlands; in that wild, beautiful country the people dwell in shielings far apart. A few huts on the shores of the Sound of Mull still exist, the same in appearance as those described in Dr. Johnson's *Tour to the Hebrides*. In this romantic region the late Lord Howard built capital cottages on his estate, Dorlin. He went constantly among the people, taking the greatest interest in them, giving them employment and helping them in every way. He told me that in winter it was their custom to assemble alternately at each others' houses, where, crowding round the fire, without light except that afforded by the flickering flames, they took it in turn to tell each other stories, which were listened to with rapt attention. I do not know if our English peasantry would find amusement in listening to tales told by one of their number, but they certainly should be given opportunities of knowing something of life beyond their villages. . . . .

"Lord Beaconsfield once said to me, in speaking of the discouragement felt by many at the dulness attending the details of the beginnings of official life, 'All details are dry; the first steps in every profession must be monotonous.' Nothing, however, can be accomplished without attention to details. Letters—often almost innumerable letters—must be written, circulars printed, explanations given over and over again, committee meetings held, hours and hours passed, very likely in stuffy rooms, discussing points on which everyone differs, before the first step of such an undertaking can be taken. Objections are sure to be raised to any scheme. These will appear ridiculous to the promoters, but no sign of impatience must be shown. By tact and courtesy, objecting persons may be converted into most zealous supporters. When at last the long-cherished idea is carried out—when the reading or recreation room is actually opened, we must redouble our efforts instead of relaxing them, in order to make it successful. Its existence must be made known as far as possible to everyone whom it may concern. Handbills must be sent round, or as many as the room can hold might be invited to a free entertainment; it must be advertised as widely as possible. We must bear in mind that in the lives of hard-working men the expenditure of even a few pence is a matter of importance, and many believe that free libraries are the most desirable. I must once more quote from Mr. Mullin's book *Free Libraries*:—

"'By the provisions of the Free Libraries Act of 1866 it is possible for small towns or villages, whose resources would not enable them to organise and sustain a free library for themselves, to join, by arrangement and payment of some small sum, the nearest town possessing a free library, and have books from the same, either by sending for them to the central depôt, or by having cases of books sent at certain times to some person appointed to receive and issue them at the place where they are required.'

"It would therefore seem that, were it possible to establish free libraries in all towns, they would become centres of intellectual light to the surrounding villages; and the blessings that we might reasonably expect to result from the diffusion of pure literature all over the country cannot be over-estimated.

"Until the dawning of that bright, and I trust not distant, day let us eagerly seize what opportunities we can for hastening it, by encouraging every existing institution. In many places there are parochial libraries to which we can subscribe for our dependants. The Christian Knowledge Society, the National Society, the Pure Literature, the Religious Tract, and other Societies publish countless interesting works, which are sold to subscribers on most moderate terms. Almost every personal gift or acquirement may be turned to account for this great cause—the emancipation of thousands from the bondage of ignorance and idleness. Not by fitful outbursts of enthusiasm will that great object be accomplished, but by steady, sympathetic, and continuous effort, sustained by the belief that for the struggling masses and ourselves wisdom is better than gold. The presence of those who devote themselves to such a cause would, in the words of a Scotch divine, be like sunrise."

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prize of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed Acrostic Editor, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 10.

(Thirty-sixth Quarter.)

1. P aradis E
2. R othschil D
3. I ngelo W
4. N an A
5. C ramme R
6. E nglan D

Answers have been received from Viz, Acme, Persevere, Zyx, Asphodel, Pegasus, Iris, Paddy, Conjecture, Etak, Peewit, Hampton Courtier, M.A.E.B., Zenobia, Sleepy, Pandora, Seedy, Work, Felix, Sarnia, and Sociable.

Persevere.—Your alternative to Light 2 was accepted, but Napoleon does not satisfy the obvious allusion to the opening line of Campbell's well-known poem.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 12.

(Thirty-sixth Quarter.)

Proem.

God grant the laurel crown that victory gave
May not be twined with cypress on his grave!

1.

The name of an island, and the name of a peer,
And of one unseen of whom in Dickens we hear.

2.

The land that is filled with slaughter and strife—
Will the end be worth one brave man's life?

3.

By another name it might well smell as sweet,
But the one sweet name in most lands we meet.

4.

This Admiral's fate we must bewail "as one in doleful dumps,
For when his legs were smitten off he fought upon his stumps."

5.

The Norseman's Bible that in storied verses
The famous legend of the North rehearses.

6.

Of the three all have heard. But here we need
Two alone. Of this take heed.

7.

On a raft 'twas declared that war should cease;
But treaties may fail to give men peace.

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